DAILY REPORT

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ZHUKOV DISCUSSES PRAGUE PROPOSALS, PEACE MOVEMENT

CW151317 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 0836 GMT 15 Jan 83

["Talk by Yuriy Aleksandrovich Zhukov, chairman of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace" -- live or recorded]

[Text] Hello dear friends. We are again meeting with you on the premises of our Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace, that operational headquarters of the powerful public movement which encompasses tens of millions of people. We are meeting with you, comrades, at an extremely responsible time. As the Political Declaration of the Warsaw Treaty member-states, which was signed last week by its highest leaders as a result of the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee in Prague, says, the development of world events as a result of the activities of aggressive circles is presently acquiring an increasingly dangerous character. The arms race is intensifying and the military threat is growing.

Under these conditions the will of the people to end this sort of dangerous development of events is making itself felt ever more insistently. In the struggle to solve this truly great task which is decisive for the destiny of all mankind, they are drawing inspiration from the noble example of the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries which, in opposition to the aggressive course of the United States and NATO, are firmly and decisively defending the cause of peace.

It seems to me that you and we will act correctly today if we devote this talk to that great peaceful advance which is presently being carried out by the socialist countries which have placed all of their international prestige, political and economic potential in the balance, to what the imperialist forces oppose this with and how all of this influences the development of mass antiwar movements throughout the world.

In their Political Declaration the Warsaw Treaty member-states publicized an impressive code of practical proposals whose realization would guarantee an end to the arms race and consolidation of peace. The fundamental principle of equality and identical security form their basis.

I will not recount all of these proposals now. I suggest that each one of you study the text of the declaration attentively. I will simply say that this program of actions evoked the broadest favorable responses in the widest circles of society. People everywhere assessed it as a practical and realizable plan of action which would permit the ominous cloud of nuclear menace which is gathering over our planet to be dispelled.

Even the bourgeoise press, which as you understand, cannot even be suspected of being sympathetic toward the socialist countries, is now writing about the Political Declaration of the socialist countries in extremely portentuous terms. Now listen to this: These proposals take one's breath away, you hear, they take one's breath away, writes the West German newspaper FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU, not only in the government of Washington but in the government cabinets of other Western states. We cannot reject these proposals as propaganda, the Canadian newspaper GAZETTE declared. To be blinded by mistrust means to fail seeing the ever increasing danger of a catastrophe, to fail seeing the threat not only to certain countries but to the very existence of mankind as well, this paper says.

The new initiatives proposed at the Prague conference, (PICOT), the organ of French business circles indicates, will promote further activization in Western Europe of the public movement against the arms race.

Under these conditions the openly aggressive forces which are presently setting the pace in Washington and in the capitals of the NATO countries have had to wittingly or unwittingly somehow take into consideration the public mood.

At the beginning, in the heat of the moment so to speak, representatives of the U.S. and NATO leadership declared, without even finding the time to read the declaration, as they have done in the past on similar occasions, that the proposals of the socialist countries, you see, contain nothing new. A most crude statement was made by the representative of the NATO staff. We do not consider it expedient, he said, to respond to the Warsaw Treaty proposal which is entirely unnecessary. Just like that, entirely unnecessary, he said. But literally on the next day these gentlemen had to bite their tongues.

One after the other the governments of the NATO member-countries began to publish statements to the effect that the proposals of the socialist countries are extremely important and they will be carefully studied. Even the NATO Political Committee made such a statement thereby striking out in this manner the inflamatory statement made the day before by its official representative.

Particular interest was aroused everywhere by the proposal of the socialist states on the conclusion of a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and maintenance of peaceful relations between the member states of the Warsaw Treaty and the NATO member-states. The core of the proposed treaty must be the mutual obligation of the member-states of both alliances not to be the first to use either nuclear or conventional weapons against one another and consequently not to use military force in general against one another.

It is further proposed to envisage in the treaty an obligation by the member-states of both alliances not to use force against third states, an obligation not to threaten the security of their international maritime, air, and space communications and a whole series of other important provisions.

These proposals evoke growing support everywhere in the world. And it was no coincidence that even President Reagan, who earlier rejected out of hand any peaceful proposals of the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries, declared on 6 January: It seems to me, he said, this will undoubtedly be subjected to review if indeed a treaty on mutual nonuse of force is being proposed.

It is completely incomprehensible to me why the word "if" is used here. After all, the proposal on concluding precisely this treaty is on the President's desk. As a matter of fact, it appears that in West Europe and even in the countries which are NATO members they are managing without this "if."

From the newspapers and television broadcasts you know that not only the broadest spheres of the public but leading state figures as well -- who have been forced to take public opinion into consideration -- are actively speaking out in support of the ideas formulated in the Prague declaration.

But people are not blind, comrades. No matter how hard the official U.S. propaganda workers try to deceive them with fables about a Soviet threat, they cannot fail to see real facts. The Soviet Union proposes to reduce strategic arms by more than 25 percent, to considerably decrease the number of nuclear warheads, and to limit to the greatest extent possible the improvement of nuclear weapons and while talks are underway, to freeze these arms. But the U.S. President is striving to achieve the most rapid development [prinyat na vooruzheniye] of new intercontinental MX missiles and powerful nuclear submarines armed with new Trident II missiles.

The Soviet Union proposes to either completely remove nuclear weapons from Europe or to reduce intermediate-range nuclear arms of the Soviet Union and NATO by two-thirds. But the United States is escalating preparations for the development of some 600 new U.S. Pershing II and cruise missiles in West Europe.

The Soviet Union proposes the destruction of chemical weapons while the United States is building new plants which will produce new and even more frightening types of this brutal weapon of mass annihilation of people, and so on and so forth.

Now being added to this are frankly cannabalistic statements -- there is no other word for them -- similar to the statement by a certain (Belenson), whom Reagan considers an authority. You had the opportunity to acquaint yourself with him last week in PRAVDA. We must, this cannibal declared in conversation with (Scheer), a correspondent of the LOS ANGELES TIMES, destroy -- you hear, destroy -- the communist government everywhere, he said, including the one in Yugoslavia. I would also destroy, he said, the government in China and establish a noncommunist government there.

The question arises, who after all is threatening whom? And what is odd about the fact that people are refusing to believe the American fables about a Soviet military threat and are ever more resolutely rising to the struggle for disarmament?

It is no coincidence that in the last few days a whole series of articles have appeared in the pages of the U.S. press whose authors complain about the fact that people do not believe Washington's foreign policy propaganda, which is presently acting primitively, coarsely and clumsily.

This was admitted, for example, by the U.S. newspaper, CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR, in an article under the doleful headline: Why Don't They Believe Us? It admitted that the public believes Soviet information about the position of the United States more than U.S. information on the position of the Soviet Union. Another U.S. newspaper, THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE, also expressed itself in similar terms.

Hence, comrades, the old popular wisdom about lies having cockroach legs which may snap justifies itself. And so the cockroach legs are snapping under the heavy lies of Washington. Proof of this is the explosive growth of the antiwar movement, not only in West Europe but in the United States itself.

Last time I gave you details of the powerful movement that has developed in the United States for a freeze on nuclear arms and showed you petitions with more than 2 million signatures collected under them in favor of a freeze. The organizers of this campaign sent them to U.S. President Ronald Reagan and late Comrade Brezhnev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet presidium and general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

You will remember that I told you then that a question was raised in many of those petitions on holding a referendum in the United States on such a freeze. Well comrades, such a referendum took place in nine states -- in California, Rhode Island, New Jersey, North Dakota, Massachusetts, Oregon, Montana, Michigan and Arizona as well as in 20 counties and cities including the U.S. capital Washington, Chicago, Philadelphia and Denver -- simultaneously with midterm congressional elections.

Comrades, one third of all U.S. voters participated in the elections. In the referendum the idea of a nuclear arms freeze was supported by the majority of residents in all the states I mentioned except in Arizona; 10,765,000 people voted for a freeze. I would like to add that the legislatures of 10 states also supported a resolution for a nuclear arms freeze. Moreover, a resolution for a freeze was almost adopted in the U.S. House of Representatives. It was only two votes short; 202 congressmen voted for the resolution and 204 voted against. Finally, a report came in from New York recently that a coalition uniting more then 18 million Americans called Citizens Against Nuclear War supported an immediate freeze on nuclear arsenals.

This is what is interesting, comrades. No matter how much President Reagan, in his speeches, tries to persuade his fellow citizens that the peace movement is organized by secret Soviet agents to prepare for the conquest of America, no matter how much the bourgeois press tries to frighten Americans with false stories that the World Peace Council, our committee and other public organizations are satantic subversive services, the stream of letters received from the United States requesting to restore contacts and inviting us to visit them to explain the new Soviet disarmament proposals grows larger every month. The number of people coming to us here, to the committee, in search of truthful information and cooperation has also increased.

One of the distinctive features of the current mass antiwar movements in the United States and also in Western Europe is their local character, so to speak. There, this characteristic feature is called a movement at the grassroots level. However, I must tell you that these roots, unlike those of grasss, are deep and lasting. A highly distinctive organizational structure has developed in the last 15 years in the United States -- neighborhood communities, local associations and local groups uniting more than 20 million ordinary citizens. The press used to call them the silent majority. Now they are more and more often called the dissatisfied majority. They are dissatisfied by many things: unemployment, drug abuse, the rising crime rate, the closing of schools and hospitals and the deterioration of housing conditions. They often argue among themselves. Some are still under the influence of anticommunist and anti-Soviet propaganda; others are beginning to free themselves of this influence. However, as time goes by, both groups realize more distinctly that the reason for U.S. social disasters is the arms race for which the current U.S. Administration bears the responsibility.

At the same time the warnings of prominent figures who disagree with Reagan's policies are reaching them, warnings that this race will not strengthen the security of the United States but, on the contrary, will weaken it. For instance, Senator Joseph Biden, a member of Senate Committees on Foreign Relations and Intelligence, discussed this in the 6 January WASHINGTON POST.

It is clear that representatives of this dissatisfied majority are displaying an ever-growing interest in the genuine position of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries who propose a diametrically opposite approach to solving questions of security: Not to strive for superiority over each other but, on the contrary, to reduce arms on the basis of strictly observing the principles of equality and identical security.

Yakov Vasilyevich (Azhgibkov), a war veteran from Kotlas, asks me to explain which organizations in the United States oppose the arms race and advocate averting nuclear war. I will gladly answer, although it is difficult to answer. Comrades, there are now hundreds of such organizations over there.

Comrades, here is one of the many letters that I have received. A message from the U.S. city of Seattle -- sister city of Tashkent. (Kathlyn Bradden), an activitist of the local organization of supporters of peace struggling to avert nuclear war, informs me that a symposium was held there devoted to the possible aftereffects of nuclear war; prominent scientists, public and political figures including the city mayor participated.

At the symposium a message of appeal to the residents of Tashkent, which I repeat is the sister city of the U.S. city, was adopted. Here it is on the screen in front of you in English and Russian. It reads:

The people of Seattle and Tashkent, sister cities, are united through the love for their cities and through the mutual hope for a happy future for their children. We understand that in the event of nuclear war all that we value would be destroyed. As representatives of Seattle and its adjacent regions, we vow to do everything to avert nuclear war. Nuclear war is an unimaginable disaster which must be struggled against.

Our peoples must act together to find peaceful ways of resolving disagreements and free ourselves of the threat of nuclear war. We are striving to achieve these aims and would like other peoples who are engaged in similar activities in other countries to join us. [The letter shown on the screen carries the following English text: Letter to the people of the Soviet Union. The people of Seattle and Tashkent are united through the sister city program, through our love for our cities, and through the hopes we share for our children's futures. Yet if there is a nuclear war, all that we value would be destroyed. As people who live in the Puget Sound community, we pledge ourselves to work to prevent nuclear war. Nuclear war is an unthinkable horror that must be prevented. Our two nations must work together to create peaceful means for resolving conflicts and take steps to reduce the danger of nuclear war. We are working for these goals in our country and would like to be united with other people as they work for these goals in their countries.]

Well, how can one not agree with such a friendly message?

As Kseniya Sergeyevna Proskurnikova, deputy chairman of the Committee of Soviet Women, informed me, the number of similar letters received by that committee has also sharply increased. It was only in December that the U.S. organization mail for peace [pochta mira] -- such an organization also exists over there -- gave our committee of women more than 80 addresses of U.S. organizations actively supporting peace and approximately 500 individual addresses of U.S. citizens who wish to cooperate with the Soviet people in the struggle against the threat of war.

However, comrades, the matter is not limited to letters. People from the United States who wish to come into working contact with us are coming here more and more often. Recently, we received representatives of farmers from the Far West of the United States here at our committee. Only yesterday these farmers were poorly acquainted with politics. However, politics reached them in the form of MX missiles. They became aware of the fact that the Reagan administration plans to deploy these missiles in the proximity of their ranches and realized with what this is fraught for them. Consequently, they flew here, to Moscow, to find out about Soviet propoasls whose implementation would save them from such a dangerous neighbor and to reach agreement with us on cooperation in the struggle for peace. The meeting was interesting and fruitful.

Comrades, I would especially like to discuss a new, extremely touching, manifestation of the antiwar struggle. American schoolchildren and their parents are now being drawn into this struggle. Last week in the Vremya newscast you saw how one of these groups that had flown to Moscow was received in the Kremlin by Vitaliy Petrovich Ruben, chairmen of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Comrades, I will tell you about this manifestation in more detail.

Organizations that set their task as saving children from a nuclear death are now spontaneously appearing in a number of U.S. states. Recently, we received a letter from an organization in Vermont called parents and teachers for social responsibility which was founded in 1981. Well, this organization offers their cooperation in the struggle against the nuclear arms race. They write: We have 2 billion reasons for the struggle for nuclear disarmament. You know that we, adults, bear the responsibility for the destiny of 2 billion children in the world.

Then, almost simultaneously, the American children who have joined, with their parents, the struggle for nuclear disarmament arrived in Moscow. These were schoolchildren from San Francisco and adjacent regions, the youngest, a charming Negro girl, is 8 years old. The oldest, a black-skinned lad, is 15 years old; he looks older than his age. The remainder of the schoolchildren were white. Adult women, headed by writer (Pat Montendon), were with them -- accompanied them. They came on funds collected in San Francisco. Comrades, it seems that our guests have already performed enormous work. They have prepared this book on the struggle for peace.

Everything here, from the cover which was drawn by 11-year-old Greg to the text and illustrations comprising the content of the book, everything was done by children's hands. It was published by funds from Doctor (Gerald Jantolski). The book has three sections. Children answer the questions: What is peace, what does peace mean to me and what I would say to our leaders? We read these answers with profound concern. They reflect the gloomy reality that surrounds these children and influences them. Peace is a scarce thing, writes 11-year-old (Laurie Davis). Peace exists only on the moon, echoes 12-year-old (Peter Cranie) gloomily. Peace is when you don't wander the streets aimlessly and when you are not forced to steal from stores. You know that our life is a nightmare, adds 10-year-old Jack.

But even more interesting, comrades, are the replies to the question: What would the childen like to say to their leaders? They outlined these replies in the form of letters to U.S. state leaders. Mr President, 10-year-old (Amina) writes to Reagan, every day on the news I hear about nuclear weapons. People say that we have sufficient weapons to defeat Russia or any other country many times over. However, they also say that we need even more arms, that we do not have enough of them. What will happen if we are defeated? Nevertheless, I think we have sufficient weapons. Instead of spending additional money on them, it would be better to give food to the starving and do other beneficial things for people.

Dear Senator, writes Kathleen who is the same age as (Amina), my brother, my parents and thousands of other people are terribly frightened by the arms race. My brother is 9 years old. Do you think it would be fair if he died? Nevertheless, I would like to know your opinion, Kathleen continues. Why must we be a greater country than Russia? Why can't we live in peace with it? I am 10 years old and I live in Mendocino, California. You will possibly pay no attention to me, but I would like to know that you know one thing: I want to live. However, all that remains for me to do is to wait until an atomic bomb kills me.

Here is another letter written by a boy called Shawn. Here it is for you to see. Please establish peace. Why do we need war? Nobody needs it. Many of my relatives died during the war. Too many innocent people have died in wars and with the appearance of nuclear and atomic bombs even more innocent people will die. Why not sit down and talk like adults. Please establish peace. If you press a button now you will level the whole country. Here is the postscript of the teacher who took this disturbing letter from this boy. Listen to this: Shawn had tears in his eyes when he wrote this. I wish everything was different, but I am afraid this will never happen.

And so, comrades, these little pilgrims of peace set off on their long journey. They took with them five bags filled with messages of this kind. First of all, they arrived in Washington where they knocked on the doors of the White House. President Reagan did not receive them. The senators also failed to receive them. Only some insignificant clerk in the State Department met with them, failing even to conceal his ironic regard towards the uninvited guests. Therefore, they then set off across the ocean.

In Moscow they found the Committee for the Defense of Peace and asked us whether they could present their messages to the Soviet leaders. Comrade Andropov was out of Moscow; he had flown to Prague for the session of the Politcial Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-states. But, as I have already said, the little pilgrims of peace were cordially received by Comrade Ruben, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

They voiced their ardent desire for peace to him and presented the letters from American children which express this aspiration. Comrade Ruben described in detail to his unusual guests the Soviet proposals aimed at ending the arms race and conveyed through them to all Ameircan children who, as he said, embody the future of the United States, wishes for stable peace.

At the conclusion of this meeting our little guests, together with the women who accompanied them, sang their song which includes the following words: Peace is our future, it is the hope that the sun will rise; peace is a dream which we crave.

Now, comrades, I will show you the messages delivered to Moscow by these young fighters for the realization of their dream. You can see what a mountain of letters these children from San Francisco brought to us. You know, I would like to show and read to you each one of these letters. Unfortunately, however, it is just physically impossible to do so. It would take many hours.

Last Monday, comrades, I received the representatives of the Dutch antiwar movement. They presented this message to our committee which was signed by 7,006 Dutch people. As you can see, the essence of this message is: No to nuclear weapons. We had differences with them on a number of issues. For example, not being sufficiently informed about the important steps of the Soviet Union aimed at ending the arms race, they tried to place the responsibility for the continuation of the arms race on both sides -- as they often say in the West -- on the United States and on the Soviet Union.

We elucidated the true state of affairs to them and said that despite the differences we are prepared to struggle against the military threat together with them, not separately. We agree with the main point in their statement, here in this one, which says: The arms race is a race towards death; the mindless buildup of nuclear arms inevitably leads to a catastrophe. We have only one earth, they write, and in order to save it we must find courage in ourselves to oppose the danger and initiate actions.

Now, we are in agreement with this. In this connection I want to report the following news to you: From 28 to 30 January we will be holding an informational meeting and dialogue with representatives of Western antiwar movements and organizations here in the committee. During this dialogue, prominent Soviet figures will thoroughly describe for them the main directions of our foreign policy, particularly the new peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries. We have already received agreements to participate in this dialogue from more than 50 representatives of mass antiwar movements of the Western countries, and from a number of parliamentarians, prominent scientists and public figures.

Here, comrades, are identical messages which we are receiving from Soviet people who desire peace not less, but more ardently than people in the West, because we know better what war is all about. Your letters sound far more optimistic. They are permeated with a deep relief in victory in the struggle against the threat of war, a struggle which all of our peace-loving people headed by our party and government are waging with the full application of all of their efforts.

Comrades, I would very much like to read all of these letters that we here in the committee, at the PRAVDA editorial office and television are receiving by the thousands, but this is practically impossible. We would not even have sufficient time to enumerate the surnames and addresses of their authors. I am very sorry about this because, literally, every one of your letters is full of the most intimate feelings and thoughts, and a familiarity with them would represent a great interest. But, as they say, we cannot embrace the unembraceable, and I am forced to limit myself to expressing warm gratitude to all of you who have sent these letters. Nevertheless, I will keep them and in the future I will attempt to describe some of them as I have done in the past, although at the present time I cannot promise with certainty to do this.

I will simply say a few words in general about the innumerable collective messages which are now being received by the committee from all ends of the country. Here you see some of them. Comrades, take a look at how much enthusiasm has gone into preparing these messages. Here we have collective letters from schoolchildren, students and plant and factory workers. In many of them we see reports on the work done in the struggle for peace.

I have already written in PRAVDA that during 1 week of mass actions in support of disarmament alone, which we carried out in response to the UN and WPC appeal, 12 million Soviet people signed the demand for disarmament while another 15 million young men and women, in response to the Komsomol congress appeal, sent to NATO Headquarters their protests against the planned deployment of American nuclear missiles in Europe. Now, I will only show you some of the sheets with signatures attached to the petition sent to the UN Organization. They were collected by the Kiev Oblast organization of peace champions. Now, there are already more than 200 such organizations in our country. Take a look at these signatures on the small posters cut from the oblast newspaper MOLODAYA GVARDIYA which published an appeal for signatures. More than 65,000 messages of this sort were received from Kiev Oblast alone. It was the same everywhere throughout our country.

Here, comrades, are lists with signatures which were gathered by members of the Calypso political club which operates in Armenia and the thousands of young men and women of Yerevan who have joined them. At their request, we sent an enormous parcel to New York with signatures attached to a petition in defense of peace. We kept only a few of these lists in order to show them to you. Pay attention, comrades. Alongside the signatures of the Soviet people are the signatures of people from Vietnam, Syria, Afghanistan, Nepal, Palestine, Kampuchea, Laos, Yemen, India, Cuba, Cyprus, Jordan and Lebanon who are studying in vocational and technical schools and VUZes of Armenia and are taking part in the Calypso International Friendship Club. Now what a wonderful example this is of unity of will of all peoples in the struggle for preserving and consolidating peace.

Together with the authors of their collective message we all repeat: Long live peace on our planet; no to war hysteria. We, comrades, are not flattering ourselves with excessive optimism. We know that a difficult and persistent struggle lies ahead which will demand an enormous intensity of efforts from all of us.

Comrades, 1983 is a special year. After all, this year the Pentagon wants above all to deploy its new nuclear missiles in Western Europe against the opposition of the peoples and would thereby turn our old continent into a nuclear theater of military actions -- as it is being called in advance in Atlantic headquarters. The choice is becoming inexorably clear: Either the peace-loving forces will double and triple their efforts and dispel this threat or the danger of a thermonuclear catastrophe will increase one hundredfold.

For this reason, this year all of us, together with foreign fighters against the military threat, are faced with enormous work, new mass actions, new demonstrations, new protest meetings, international marches, new petitions and protests addressed to NATO Headquarters. The enemies of peace are not dozing; they are currently initiating a new tactic which attempts to split the ranks of the champions of peace. Their agents are striving to form some false organization which, under the pilfered flag of peace, will attempt to split off some of the antiwar movement participants who do not possess sufficient political experience and direct them against the socialist countries, manipulating for the 1,001st time the concotion of a Soviet threat.

These base schemes are opposed by the broad and noble plan of staging a world assembly for peace and life against nuclear war in Prague this June, an assembly open to all antiwar movements irrespective of any differences existing between them whether ideological, philosophical or religious in nature. This will be a genuine platform for a free dialogue the aim of which will be the establishment of the broadest united front of peace-loving forces.

I want to assure you, dear friends, that the Soviet movement of peace champions which operates under the leadership of the WPC will make its worthy contribution to the solution of this task. In the struggle to realize it, we will lean on the support of each one of you, comrades, who makes his contribution to strengthening peace for the benefit of the homeland with his labor.

The better we all work, the better we will fulfill the 11th 5-Year Plan tasks and the stronger our economy, the foundation of the homeland's security, will be.

As the report of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet and USSR Council of Ministers on the results of the conference of the Political Consultative Committee says, the Soviet Union does everything that depends on it so that reason will triumph in international affairs. The Soviet Union will continue to consistently pursue the Leninist policy of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems maintaining vigilance of the intrigues of the enemies of socialism and peace and adopting the necessary measures to ensure the country's security.

Our party and state invariably support broad and fruitful cooperation between all peoples of the planet free from diktat and interference in internal affairs for their mutual benefit and for the benefit of all mankind. They will do everything that depends on them to ensure a tranquil and peaceful future for the present and future generations. This is the aim of our policy and the Soviet Union will not renege on it. Permit me to conclude our talk today with this.

Goodbye, until our next meeting in the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace.

PRAVDA CITES RUMORS ON U.S. VARIANT TO ZERO OPTION

LD160212 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Many Western leaders, foreign newspapers write, have had to wake up early from the political hibernation traditional for the Christmas holidays and concentrate seriously on studying the proposals of the socialist community countries. The West has so far given no specific reply to the Soviet peace proposals. It is rumored that the U.S. delegation in Geneva intends to insist on some half-and-half variant of the famous zero option. This, however, still means the deployment of at least some of the new medium-range missiles in Western Europe. This is a deliberately fallacious approach. It will not secure peace and security in Europe, PRAVDA says.

REAGAN PRESS CONFERENCE REMARKS ON PACT OFFER

LD151222 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1045 GMT 15 Jan 83

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Anatoliy Doronin and Dmitriy Biryukov]

[Excerpts] Hello, we start the broadcast with reaction to the new peace initiatives of the socialist countries as contained in the Prague Declaration of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee.

However, in Washington -- to which the proposals contained in the declaration are primarily addressed -- they are pretending that there are no such proposals or that nothing is known about them, although the Prague Declaration was distributed as an official document of the UN Organization.

It is reported by REUTER that President Reagan, speaking at a press conference held yesterday, declared for the umpteenth time that the United States is ready, as he put it, to examine any serious proposal on the control of armaments. Maybe for Reagan the proposals of the socialist countries are in fact not sufficiently serious, although the real state of affairs is something different. These proposals did not please him or those forces which he represents in the White House. Therefore, as the American Paper THE WASHINGTON POST writes, he is evasive about the proposals from Moscow while giving assurances that he is striving for a genuine reduction of armaments.

Of course, President Reagan finds it much more pleasant to hear challenges coming from the right, from various breeds of hawk. A cable from Washington mentions the conclusions of the former assistant to the secretaries of defense in the Nixon, Ford and Carter administrations, Donald Cotter, who claims in his research that the Soviet Union possesses a considerable nuclear superiority over the United States in Europe. He even names the ratio -- two to one. Therefore, he says, talks with the USSR should be stopped and one should arm oneself, increasing the number of nuclear missiles even above what was planned for deployment in Western Europe.

TASS Comments on Press Conference

LD151852 Moscow TASS in English 1828 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] Washington January 15 TASS -- In connection with the appearance on the pages of the U.S. and foreign press of ever new reports about "chaos" and "disarray" in the top echelons of power in the United States, President Ronald Reagan held an unplanned questions and answers session with the press.

One of the journalists, putting his question to the President said outright: "There is a perception that the disarray is here in the White House, that you have been out of touch", that "our presidency is failing". Ronald Reagan did not agree with such an assessment and tried to accuse representatives of the U.S. press of spreading such assertions.

Evading questions of economic and social character, Ronald Reagan tried to justify his policy in the sphere of nuclear armaments, offering actually nothing new, only the pseudozero option which means an open attempt of the administration to disrupt the balance that has formed in the military-strategic sphere and to achieve the military superiority of the United States.

He said that the two factors that are "essential" to success in arms control are "leverage and determination". "We have in the past two years", he said, "succeeded in getting authorization for a complete modernization of the triad of strategic forces". In the President's opinion, superiority in armaments would enable the United States to exert influence on the Geneva talks.

The other quality which the President believes to be "essential" to success is "determination". In his opinion it is reflected in the fact that recently he had made some management changes so as to have a "streamlined team" capable of reaching decisions promptly and getting results in the Geneva talks. The President kept silent, however, of the fact that these changes were not at all a result of his initiative since high-placed figures are quitting the administration one after another because of their disagreement with how the U.S. policy is being conducted in the sphere of arms control.

Commenting on Reagan's press conference THE WASHINGTON POST recalls that for the third time in the past three days in the President himself or the secretary of state seek to convince the critics of the administration's striving to reach agreement. The newspaper writes that these attempts are being made after major reshuffles have taken place in the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and the new Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov has come out with a series of speeches and pronouncements about arms control. The newspaper notes that Yuriy Andropov's statements evoked great interest in the West and it is expected that as the deadline for the deployment of U.S. nuclear armaments in Europe is drawing nearer, protests will be mounting there. The U.S. Administration is seeking to find the way to give an answer to the Soviet Union and thus mitigate the protests in the West, the newspaper notes.

BOGACHEV ON U.S. 'FROZEN' DISARMAMENT STANCE

LD141908 Moscow TASS in English 1901 GMT 14 Jan 83

["A 'Freeze' on the U.S. Position" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow January 14 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

The Reagan administration, which categorically refuses to conclude any agreements with the USSR to "freeze" nuclear weapons, has utterly "frozen" its original position at the Geneva talks.

Some of the Western watchers assuming that Washington has worked out a "more flexible approach" to negotiating with the USSR the nuclear arms limitations in Europe have been proven wrong. Questioned by newsmen about the administration's reaction to the new Soviet peace initiatives, Speakes, the White House spokesman, said that President Reagan's position regarding medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe remains unchanged.

In the 14 months of the Geneva negotiations on nuclear weapons in Europe, the U.S. position has not budged in inch. As is known, Reagan's "zero option" did not provide for cutting the present NATO armaments in Europe even by one plane or one missile. On the other hand, the U.S. side demands that the Soviet Union dismantle all of its medium-range missiles not only in the European, but also the Asian, parts of the USSR. Already now, NATO has a one and a half times edge over the USSR in the number of nuclear ammunitions on medium-range delivery vehicles in Europe. In the event of a unilateral dismantling of all Soviet medium-range missiles, NATO's edge would treble. So the "zero option" would also assure NATO a double advantage in delivery vehicles.

It goes without saying that the Soviet Union will not agree to a unilateral disarmament that would sharply upset the existing parity of forces in Europe and destabilise the military-political situation on the continent. During the time of the Geneva talks, the Soviet Union imposed a moratorium on deployment of its medium-range nuclear armaments in Europe, and is not deploying additionally any medium-range missiles in areas that would bring the West European countries within their range. At its own initiative, the Soviet Union is cutting down on a certain quantity of such missiles.

The new Soviet proposals to limit and reduce nuclear weapons in Europe, formulated by Yuriy Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his December 21 report, aim at both a steep reduction in the level of military confrontation in Europe and liquidation of the so-called asymmetry of the nuclear armaments of the USSR and NATO.

The Soviet Union proposes to cut both the number of missiles and that of planes down to the same levels for both sides. In the process, a substantial reduction in armaments is to be assured by the fact that in the case of missiles the basis adopted will be NATO's present lower level (162 units), while in the case of planes - the lower level of the USSR.

"We do not wish to have in the zone of Europe a single missile or a single plane more than is available to the NATO countries," Yuriy Andropov said.

The utterances of Washington spokesmen about a U.S. readiness "to discuss any serious proposal from the USSR", as transpires from the latest "explanations" of the White House, were but tactical moves to buy time for a brainwashing of public opinion which has expressed its approval of the new Soviet initiatives.

USTINOV RETURNS FROM DEFENSE MINISTERS MEETING

LD150016 Moscow Domestic Television in Russian 1800 GMT 14 Jan 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR defense minister, returned to Moscow today. He had taken part in the latest meeting of the Committee of the Defense Ministers of the Warsaw Pact member-states in Prague. Comrade Ustinov was met by Marshal of the Soviet Union Ogarkov, chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces and USSR first deputy defense minister; Marshal of the Soviet Union Sokolov, USSR first deputy defense minister; Army General Yepishev, chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy; USSR deputy defense ministers and other military chiefs. Among those who met him was Major General Novisedlak, military and air force attache at the Czechoslovak Embassy in the USSR.

CSSR'S CHNOUPEK ON WARSAW PACT QUEST FOR PEACE

PM131651 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 5 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[Article by CSSR Foreign Minister Bohuslav Chnoupek: "Support and Hope"]

[Text] Prague -- "The Warsaw Pact organization plays an irreplaceable role in the socialist countries' joint efforts to ensure mankind's peaceful future. We will continue to promote the improvement of its organs' activity, the further deepening of the coordination of the socialist countries' foreign policy and also the reliable defense of our people's socialist gains by our joint military-political alliance."

These words spoken by Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR president, at our party's 16th congress, express Socialist Czechoslovakia's permanent foreign policy orientation.

Hence our desire, jointly with the fraternal countries, to make every effort to ensure that the Prague meeting of the Warsaw Pact Political Consultative Committee (PCC) is a new milestone along the path of further strengthening the socialist countries' unity on the basis of Marxism-Leninism, international solidarity and fraternal cooperation.

For us citizens of Czechoslovakia, the meeting is of special significance. The very first PCC conference was held in Prague. Even then, in January 1956, the participants in the conference of the Warsaw Pact's highest political organ, in the declaration they adopted, were unanimous on the question of the measures needed to further lessen international tension and settle unresolved international problems. The diametrical opposition between the Warsaw Pact's peaceful orientation and the aggressive nature of the NATO bloc was then demonstrated once again most convincingly.

A sober view of the world, confidence in their own strength, an optimistic conviction of the vitality of the Leninist principles of the policy of peaceful coexistence -- from the outset all this has been attendant on conferences of the fraternal countries' leaders.

Each PCC conference has collectively formulated the main directions in the socialist states' foreign policy activity, coordinated their joint actions and still further enriched the European community and the entire international community with valuable new ideas dictated by the most important demands of the time.

It may be noted with satisfaction that many of these ideas and proposals have been implemented. But it cannot be said that the struggle being waged by the Warsaw Pact Organization for the relaxation of international tension has been easy. Suffice it to recall the efforts which the implementation of the decisions of the Bucharest PCC conference in July 1966 cost. At that time the declaration on strengthening peace and security in Europe was adopted -- that is, the concrete plan to convene an all-European summit conference. How much creative energy, initiative and flexibility were needed to rebuff all our enemies' attempts to bury the idea of convening an all-European conference! Years were to pass before the socialist countries were able to pave the way to Helsinki. Reason triumphed, the ideas of peaceful coexistence triumphed.

The Warsaw Pact countries, fighting actively and tirelessly against imperialism's aggressive plans, declare their readiness to curb any aggressor and defend socialism's revolutionary gains. At the same time they seek to preserve all the positive effects of detente in international relations.

The socialist community countries regard it as today's main task to avert the danger of nuclear war and curtail the latest spiral in the arms race. They are convinced that the positive completion of the Madrid meeting would do much to help resolve this task. "Particular significance would be attached to the adoption by the Madrid meeting of a decision on convening a conference on confidence-building measures and security and disarmament in Europe within the framework of the all-European process and the agreement of a mandate for the conference," says the communique of the Warsaw Pact Foreign Ministers Committee session held in Moscow in October 1982.

Political dialogue continues at the highest level. The CSSR makes its own contribution. I have in mind the recent visit by CSSR President Gustav Husak to Austria and his talks with President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger. East-West economic cooperation is deepening intensively. And this in spite of Washington's well-known attempts to undermine it with various bans, embargoes and sanctions.

"At present, now that the world situation has reached a dangerous crossroad as a result of imperialism's aggressive policy, no task is more urgent than that of preserving peace and averting the threat of nuclear war," CSSR President Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR president, said in his speech at the ceremony devoted to the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation. "Our planet's peoples are becoming increasingly aware that the support and hope of all peace-loving forces in the struggle for these noble goals is the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries."

The eyes of the planet's peace-loving forces are now turned toward Prague in expectation of new initiatives from the Warsaw Pact Organization in defense of peace.

16 JANUARY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD161643 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 16 Jan 83

["International Observers Roundtable" program presented by Gennadiy Vedenyapin with Dmitriy Anatoliyevich Volskiy, member of NOVOYE VREMYA editorial board; and Vadim Nikolayevich Nekrasov, KOMMUNIST international observer]

Warsaw Pact Proposals

[Text] [Vedenyapin] The beginning of the New Year was marked by a new large-scale offensive by the Warsaw Pact member-countries, an offensive in favor of peace and relaxation of international tension. The Political Declaration adopted in Prague contains a weighty and realistic alternative to the slide toward a nuclear catastrophe. The proposals clearly formulated in this document, and in particular the new proposal of the socialist countries to conclude an agreement on mutual nonuse of military force and maintenance of relations of peace between Warsaw Pact member-states and NATO, proceed from current realities. They proceed from the fact that the international situation is becoming, through the fault of the imperialist circles, increasingly complex. The imperialist circles are conducting a policy of force, pressure and interference in the internal affairs of states, with the aim of consolidating and reshaping spheres of influence.

The Prague declaration directly underlines that the U.S. program for development and manufacture of nuclear and other weapons based upon the latest scientific achievements is aimed at increasing many times over the destructive might of the arsenals of the United States, including those in Europe. This policy of increasing armaments with the aim of achieving military superiority leads to destruction of international stability. This sober statement of the harsh realities of our time, however, by no means leads us to pessimistic conclusions. On the contrary, the states represented at the Political Consultative Committee conference expressed their firm conviction that however difficult the situation in the world, there nevertheless exist opportunities to overcome this dangerous stage in international relations.

The whole meaning and spirit of the Political Delcaration is directed precisely toward overcoming this stage, adding new and important elements to the propositions of the Moscow and Warsaw declarations of 1978 and 1980 respectively and supplementing all the latest peace initiatives of the fraternal countries, including the recent Soviet proposals made by Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov in his report, 60 Years of the USSR, and in his interview with the U.S. political observer on the eve of the New Year.

The document of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and Council of Ministers, which wholly and fully approved the activity of the Soviet delegation and highly evaluated the results of the Prague conference, stresses that the peace initiatives of the allied socialist states have opened a practical possibility to put a stop to the present dangerous development of events, to turn them in a healthy direction, to strengthen mutual trust and to solve one after the other the tasks of limiting and cutting arsenals, especially nuclear ones.

[Nekrasov] These important aspects which Gennadiy Aleksandrovich has pointed out are attracting attention throughout the world. This is quite natural. It has been over a week since the end of the Prague meeting of the Political Consultative Committee, yet the conference documents, the Political Declaration and of course the proposal on concluding an agreement on mutual nonuse of military force continue to remain the topic of the most lively interest in all countries throughout the world.

Taking a daily look at the material in the foreign press, one constantly sees articles and commentaries, interviews and statements devoted to the recent peace initiatives of the socialist countries.

The proposals made by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee in connection with the Geneva negotiations on strategic armaments and medium-range missiles in Europe, his proposals on Soviet-U.S. relations, and his reflections on the possibilities for a summit meeting between the Soviet Union and the United States are being examined as a package. Of course, the possibilities for development in relations on the European Continent, which were reviewed in particular at the Political Consultative Committee session, are also involved. This package is rightly regarded throughout the world as a major contribution by the country of socialism in the struggle to safeguard peace. Such a major contribution cannot just be summed up in general terms. One cannot wave it aside as something undeserving of careful attention.

Thus, the French newspaper LIBERATION wrote quite rightly about this, literally the other day: The countries of the North Atlantic alliance have found themselves in a situation in which they cannot reply with a systematic refusal to all the proposals made to them.

[Vedenyapin] It is evident that over the past few days the basic orientations, so to speak, of the Western countries' reactions to our proposals have been more or less precisely defined. What can you say on this point, Vadim Nikolayevich? Or to put the question in this way: What important and interesting points in the positions of the West, primarily the NATO countries, demonstrate their reaction to the proposals of the countries of the socialist community?

[Nekrasov] First and foremost I should like to point out what seems to be the most characteristic thing at the present moment. I have in mind the wholly perceptible boundary, the disparity between the reaction of the West European countries to the Political Consultative Committee's proposals and Washington's position. In West Europe this proposal has evidently been received sympathetically -- I am not afraid of putting it this way. Washington's reaction was different. The wishes of its allies could not, of course, be ignored here in the American capital. Yes, Washington says, the proposals merit careful study. After the word "study," however, there is essentially a full stop. I think we shall return to this issue. Now, however, I would like to say that our new proposals and initiatives have become yet further most convincing evidence of the lack of any aggressive intentions on the part of the Soviet Union and other countries of socialism in relation to the West.

Even THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, a very reactionary British newspaper which is closely linked with conservative circles, said the other day: No proof is needed at the present moment of the fact that General Secretary Andropov would like to avert the outbreak of war in any form.

[Vedenyapin] Vadim Nikolayevich, if we return to the U.S. position: As far as we know, President Reagan expressed intentions to make a serious study of the Warsaw Treaty countries' proposal. In your opinion, how should this statement be evaluated?

[Nekrasov] First, I would like to answer your question by citing the opinion of a commentator for the U.S. NBC television company. This opinion, in my view, reflects fairly accurately the situation which has come about in Washington ruling circles at the moment. This is what the commentator says: President Reagan is in a defensive position; he may not permit himself to say openly what he really thinks about the Russian proposals.

Well, we shall assume, so to speak, that the journalist, this commentator, knows what he is talking about. As you recall, in his last talk on U.S. radio a week ago, President Reagan expressed a number of sensible opinions on the question of Soviet-U.S. relations. For example, he spoke of the hope that the future would bring about an improvement in relations with the Soviet Union and an era of genuine stability -- I quote the President's words. True, he added right away that the Soviet Union alone -- so he said -- is responsible for the deterioration of Soviet-American relations at the present stage, while the United States has nothing to do with it. Well, we shall not argue about that now; let the matter rest with his conscience. Apportioning blame for what has happened is not the most important thing. We know what happened, we have talked about it more than once and our viewpoint is quite natural.

What I would like to draw attention to in that speech is this: The White House chief declared that the United States -- he said -- is waiting for any serious actions and proposals from the Soviet Union and is ready to discuss with the Soviet Union any proposals which are genuinely capable of facilitating the success of the cause of peace. Note, comrades, that these words were spoken after our proposals had been made known to the entire world and had been placed on the negotiating table. The question arises of how one should understand such insistence on some new proposals. The present peace initiatives of our country and our friends in the community, which have been so highly appraised throughout the world, are evidently inadequate in the eyes of the present American administration; Washington would apparently like to receive some additional concessions which would lead to the destruction of the military balance existing in the world. Well, there is nothing else to be said; of course, nothing will come of such calculations. The Soviet Union has repeatedly underlined this. And it was pointed out again in the Political Declaration of the Prague conference. In his speech, President Reagan, however, expressed readiness -- as he put it — to sit down at the negotiating table with the Russians to discuss practical measures to make a genuine improvement in relations between the East and West.

Well, one can only welcome such an intention. I must say that there are not a few observers in the West who are expressing doubts. The influential Paris journal LE MONDE, for instance, says it appears that the American administration has decided to alter its tactics. Washington is now not rejecting the new proposals, but is attempting to gain time in order to influence public opinion in an appropriate way. There you see the appraisal being given of the situation that has now come about, by this highly influential and well-informed Paris newspaper.

U.S.-West Europe Relations

[Volskiy] You mentioned the view of LE MONDE, Vadim Nikolayevich. It seems that it fairly accurately reflects the present tactical line of the U.S. administration and its striving to gain time in order to have an opportunity to exert fresh pressure on its allies and to force them to submit to the bellicose line of U.S. militarist circles. President Reagan's decision to send Vice President Bush in the near future to a number of West European countries is evidently closely connected with this line. As one can judge from reports in the press at present, he is being given the task of holding appropriate talks with the United States' European allies over the new proposals announced by the Soviet Union and other Warsaw Treaty member countries -- that is, of attuning the allies in the spirit required by Washington.

[Nekrasov] Yes, as was announced, Bush is due to fly to West Europe at the very end of January -- on 30 January. I think. Incidentally, he is coming to our continent approximately a couple of months after the trip to West Europe by U.S. Secretary of State Shultz who, I seem to recall, was given a similar task.

The fact that another trip is now necessary, and moreover by a higher official, in my view shows that the customary techniques and arguments of Washington policy with regard to its allies are losing their effectiveness.

The United States' allies more and more stress their wish to live as they themselves see fit. In this connection it seems that the British GUARDIAN justly emphasized recently that the White House is uneasy because it can see how it is losing the battle for European public opinion. Indeed, one may also cite a noteworthy pronouncement by the American NEWSWEEK magazine in this connection. The magazine said fears are mounting among Washington political strategists that the White House's present refusal to discuss Moscow's proposals might strengthen the West Europeans in their suspicions that the Reagan administration is not prepared for serious steps in limiting armaments.

[Vedenyapin] But meanwhile, it is precisely Europe that is the key zone in the complex efforts to eliminate the danger of war, to curb the arms race and to go on to disarmament, because it is here that the largest amount of armaments -- both conventional and nuclear -- have been amassed and it is here that the armed forces of the two military blocs are confronting each other. The prospects for establishing real security in the continent could undoubtedly be much closer, if the important proposals of the socialist states are given consideration. In their view, the best solution would be to totally free Europe from Nuclear weapons -- both medium range ones and tactical ones. Indeed, if it is impossible at present to reach such a genuinely zero option, it is expedient -- and this is stated in the [Prague] declaration -- to proceed along the path of a radical reduction of medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe on the basis of the principles of equality and equal security. In this respect exceptionally important significance is assumed in principle by the Soviet-American talks on limiting nuclear arms in Europe.

Unfortunately, as is well known, the NATO countries have stated their intention to begin the deployment of new medium-range American missiles in West Europe at the end of this year. They make this conditional on the achievement of agreement at the Geneva talks -- that is, setting in practice an artificial time limit for completion of the talks. So, we have a state of affairs where it will simply be enough to prolong the talks and then, in the absence of agreement, to start in practice the deployment of U.S. missiles.

Vadim Nikolayevich, you have already spoken about the potential danger that is entailed in this indiscriminate attitude of certain western leaders toward our peace initiatives. Now many people are, so to speak, having to take account of the losses, potential losses, arising from this indiscriminate attitude in the political sphere.

There was, indeed, an example just in the last few days. The Danish Parliament for the first time since the war voted to freeze the $6 million which were intended to be Denmark's contribution to this NATO nuclear program. This is an unprecedented event. In the Norwegian Storting the opposition lacked literally only one vote to defeat in principle this nuclear program. Of some interest too are the results of a public opinion poll held in the FRG where, incidentally, there has recently been a marked growth of the antiwar movement. Suffice it to say that the Krefeld appeal has already been signed by more than 3 million people, and the collection of signatures for that appeal is continuing.

Now as to the results of the public opinion poll: It was held among supporters of the ruling parties, the Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union [CDU/CSU] and the Free Democrats, [FDP]. Fifty-four percent of the traditional voters for the CDU/CSU and 70 percent of the supporters of the FDP expressed their opposition to the NATO missile program and expressed their opposition to the deployment of Pershings on West German soil.

Well, in general the extent of the antiwar movement is very markedly increasing everywhere at present. I think you might recall the blockade of Greenham Common military base in Britain and the protests in Sicily; the blockade of the base at Heilbronn in the FRG is continuing. Now already for the current year and those months remaining before the planned deployment of American medium-range missiles on West European soil peace supporters are planning a whole series of new measures designed to hamper these plans.

[Nekrasov] Well, at present the center of attention in this regard is increasingly the FRG.

[Vedenyapin] Yes, it is planned to deploy virtually a third of these missiles there.

[Nekrasov] Yes, and the preterm elections to the Bundestag will take place on 6 March, and all foreign observers are of the view that the main issue at the elections will indeed be the question of these missiles. An acute struggle is expected on this issue between on the one hand the Social Democratic Party [SPD] and on the other the present coalition parties of the government, first and foremost the CDU.

[Vedenyapin] But in this respect, Vadim Nikolayevich, it is evident that these elections, contrary, so to speak, to the predictions of the ruling coalition and of Chancellor Kohl himself -- to judge by the results of the public opinion poll which I mentioned earlier -- could indeed become a kind of vote of no-confidence in this NATO nuclear program and the so-called NATO zero option.

[Nekrasov] Well, maybe we shall see. It is not so long now before 6 March. As yet both sides are assiduously preparing for the coming elections.

Thus Hans-Jochen Vogel, the new SPK leader, has recently paid visits to Washington and Moscow. As for the American capital, the people there simply did not wish particularly to speak with him. As stated by the American newspapers, Kohl, leader of the Christian Democrats, is much closer in spirit and policy to Reagan. In Moscow Vogel was received at the highest level and he had a lengthy conversation, which he said had been intensive, fruitful and frank.

Well, as is well known, the leadership of the West German SPD has in its time played its part in the appearance and the assiduous pushing through of the plan for the deployment of new American missiles, but times have changed and, whereas the CDU is defintely in favor of the deployment of these missiles, concerning the position of the Social Democrats, which has not as yet been finally formulated in the form of some preelection program, the NEW YORK TIMES, for instance, has remarked on the basis of those statements that are being made to the effect that the West German Social Democrats are now inclining toward a viewpoint that is not at all far removed from that being propounded by the Soviet Union.

Situation in Central America

[Volskiy] Well, today we have been speaking mainly about the continent of Europe. This is quite natural, of course. Nevertheless, very symptomatic and important events are at present unfolding in other parts of the world, too. Take, for instance, El Salvador. There at approximately the same time, that is last week, an intensification began of the patriotic rebel movement and the rebel forces -- the forces of the Farabundo Marti Front -- which launched actions simultaneously on five towns. This was one thing. The other was that there has already been a split in the ruling pro-American camp. The commander of one of the main military districts refused to submit to the central authorities.

This was a very indicative and even symbolic coincidence. In fact, support and aid for the reactionary Salvadoran regime, and the suppression of the people's uprising was very nearly the first foreign policy goal that the official Reagan government set itself 2 years ago when it had only just come to power.

At the time Washington referred to El Salvador as a kind of touchstone for America's entire policy and its whole course of forcibly confronting liberation movements, at least in the developing world. In order to strengthen their sociopolitical base in that country the United States organized elections there and, on the basis of these phoney elections, began to form a government. They formed it and started to extend aid to it, as it were, on a constitutional basis. The calculation was that this would help to split the patriotic forces and weaken their positions among the masses. Well, as we now see, everything has turned out the opposite. The split has occurred -- and in a very acute form, almost in the form of military clashes -- in the pro-American reactionary camp, while the ranks of the partisans are being reinforced by more and more people -- mainly young people from rural and urban areas. Thus, we have here a real so-called touchstone -- a stone against which America's entire policy of forcibly suppressing liberation movements has stumbled.

[Vedenyapin] Dmitriy Antonovich, the U.S. Administration, having encountered only failure in El Salvador, is obviously striving to make up for it in neighboring Nicaragua. There are increasingly frequent incursions into Nicaragua from Honduran territory by armed Somozist bands and other counterrevolutionaries, trained and armed by the Americans.

[Volskiy] What is characteristic is attempts to destabilize the Sandinist regime -- the people's power of Nicaragua -- have strengthened the solidarity of international progressive forces with it, and not only the progressive forces but also, we may say, the Nonaligned Movement. The very fact that the meeting of the nonaligned countries' Coordinating Bureau was held in Managua, at which there was discussion of the question of normalization of the situation in Central America, is of course remarkable in the extreme. It is indicative both of the contribution of nonaligned countries in resolving crisis situations, as stressed in the declaration of the Warsaw Treaty countries, and of the fact that the international community does not accept but rejects Washington's imperial global policy.

[Vedenyapin] Dmitriy Antonovich, by the way this was I think the first time that the Nonaligned Movement had decided to discuss the situation in this region of the world -- in Latin America. And at this point it is obviously quite interesting to recall what Washington's reactions were to the draft of the final communique of the Coordinating Bureau's meeting. It contains a series of points, sharply critical ones, directed at the United States, and the U.S. ambassador in Managua was not shy about telling the Nicaraguan minister of foreign affairs to his face about Washington's dissatisfaction with the position of the Nonaligned Movement concerning the United States.

Middle East Developments

[Volskiy] Well, they were acting chiefly in underhanded ways, of course, trying to cultivate certain people and figures from certain developing countries. And this modus operandi is now generally characteristic of American policy. It particularly has an effect on their approach to the Near East, and is now operating mainly on the quiet, so to speak. They are trying not to come out with their own proposals, after the failure of Reagan's plan which was put forward some months ago. They are trying to operate behind the scenes of the diplomatic arena, pushing more to the foreground in particular the Israeli Government, which at the moment is conducting talks with Lebanon.

[Volskiy] However, these talks are being conducted with great difficulty because Lebanon wants to talk about the unconditional withdrawal of Israeli forces which invaded the country last summer, whereas the Israeli leadership is contemplating something completely different: imposing on Lebanon a capitulatory agreement modeled on the Camp David agreement which was concluded a few years ago with Egypt, and by doing this, consolidating the results of their summer aggression. However, these attempts by Tel Aviv have achieved an effect which it did not expect. Together with all the rest they have been a sort of catalyst of armed resistance against the aggressors in Lebanon. It has already become a real factor of the Near East situation.

[Vedenyapin] But even in these conditions the United States is continuing to encourage the aggressor and give him every possible support. The responsibility of the United States for the Israeli crimes was pointed out during the meeting on 12 January between Comrades Andropov, Gromyko and Ponomarev and the PLO delegation headed by Yasir 'Arafat. As you will recall, the participants in that meeting confirmed their resolve to work toward achieving a just and all-embracing settlement in the Near East. They stressed that a practical path toward this would be opened up by convening an international conference on the Near East with the participation of the PLO.

[Volskiy] And there's one other point. At the Soviet-Palestinian meeting both sides unanimously noted the need for cohesion and unity of action by all the Arabs. And such cohesion really is particularly important at the present time because the Begin government, if it does not succeed in politically consolidating the results of its aggression against Lebanon and the Palestinians, obviously means to raise the stakes, as they say, and start a new round in their aggressive war. In particular, the pretext being used is the measures which the Syrians are taking to strengthen their defense potential. This is, however, to put it mildly, an artificial pretext of course. It is essentially a provocative hullabaloo that has been raised over the measures taken by Syria. Syria naturally has every right to look after its own defense, and the need for this obviously arises from the tense situation which has been created in the Near East by Israeli and U.S. policy.

Literally just a few days ago General Eytan, the Israeli chief of staff, came straight out and said that as far as Israel is concerned the war in Lebanon is not yet over and that, to quote his own words, "the Israeli army aims to stay in Lebanon in order to turn its military achievements into political ones." What he means by this is not only the aim to suppress the growing resistance from the Lebanese, but also the intention to prepare for an attack on the Syrian troops which form part of the inter-Arab forces deployed in the Al-Biqa' Valley in Lebanon. The Israelis are now moving large quantities of hardware and ammunition, chiefly by night, into the Al-Biqa' Valley and are threatening to attack Syrian territory itself. There is an extremely suspicious coincidence between all this and statements by certain U.S. figures. Defense Secretary Weinberger, for example, said a few days ago that the formation of a special command for a U.S. rapid deployment force in the Near East is being started. If you take into account the fact that at the start of the new year there officially came into force the decisions to set up a U.S. command for the Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf area, then it becomes particularly clear to what extent Washington's imperial globalism, so to speak, is fraught with danger.

What does all this indicate? Broadly speaking it indicates that the smoldering hotbeds of so-called "local" conflicts may flare up anew and that there is the threat of their growing into clashes on a worldwide scale.

It is no accident, of course, that this danger was pointed out in the declaration of the Warsaw Treaty member-states who consider that the elimination of hotbeds of military tension in Asia, Africa, Latin America and other regions could to a considerable extent bring about an overall improvement in the world situation.

[Vedenyapin] It only remains for me to add that just these few events that we have managed to review during this program -- their course, development and role in the world today -- all confirm most graphically, I would say, the correctness of the propositions and conclusions contained in the Political Declaration by the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-countries. The Soviet Union does everything that it can to enable reason to triumph in international affairs. It will continue in the future -- and this was stated in the statement by the Politburo, the USSR Supreme Soviet presidium and USSR Council of Ministers following their examination of the results of the Prague meeting of the Political Consultative Committee -- consistently to pursue the Leninist policy of peaceful coexistence with states of a different social systems while maintaining vigilance against the intrigues of enemies of socialism and peace and taking the measures necessary to ensure the country's security. The meeting of the Political Consultative Committee showed that in the present-day situation the all-round cooperation among socialist states, their joint struggle for common aims on the international scene, the exchange of experience in the building of socialism and communism and coordination of forces in the economy, science and technology are playing an increasing role. All this multiplies the strength of the socialist community and helps overall to solve the creative tasks facing all its members. In their document, the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR Supreme Soviet presidium and USSR Council of Ministers stressed that friendship and cooperation with the fraternal countries have always occupied, and will continue to occupy, a special place of priority in the international policy of the party and the Soviet state. At this point, comrades, our meeting today at the round table has come to an end. We thank you for listening. Goodbye to you all.

TASS REPORTS U.S. 'DISSATISFACTION' WITH REAGAN

LD152030 Moscow TASS in English 2010 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] Washington January 15 TASS -- A serious crisis in the Reagan administration, disarray in the Washington top echelon faced with ever new flops of the home and foreign policy of the White House -- this is how U.S. observers assess the "epidemic of resignations" that swept the U.S. Administration and major reshuffles in the departments dealing with military and economic matters.

As is known, many high-placed officials of the administration resigned in the recent months, among them the President's chief economic adviser and the head of the foreign policy department of the USA. The head of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency tendered his resignation a few days ago. The DAILY WORLD points out in this connection that the opposition to Reagan's policy is assuming a mass character. The newspaper writes that the promises of economic "envigoration" actually lead only to the growth of unemployment, the attempts to "crush" socialism lead to new defeats of capitalism. Sensing the impending storm, many in the administration hasten to abandon the ship.

The CBS television company notes that far from all in the White House agree with the President's assertion that all is well. The President's closest advisers admit that he no longer inspires confidence since, contrary to his promises, the situation in the economy has not improved.

The Reagan administration has panicked. This is noted by the organ of the U.S. business circles, WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Dissatisfaction with the policy of the present tenant of the White House, with his extremely dangerous course of confrontation in the international arena and the sabotaging of effective efforts which are aimed at curbing the nuclear arms race is manifested also in the swift fall of Reagan's prestige among the voters. According to the latest survey carried out by the Harris organization, the number of Americans approving Reagan's activity dropped from 45 to 38 per cent within five weeks. Practically in all regions of the country, among all age groups of the U.S. population Reagan lost the support of the majority of voters.

Worried by the developments unfavourable for it, the Reagan administration launched a large-scale campaign of conditioning the public opinion. The newspaper WASHINGTON POST notes that in the recent days the President and his closest associates have been taking special efforts with the aim of convincing the critics and skeptics that the administration is striving to achieve agreement at the Soviet-U.S. talks. And the U.S. Administration does not essentially change the U.S. approach to the Geneva talks, the approach which is prompted by the quest of unilateral military advantages.

The attempts of the Washington leadership to justify its dangerous course, to lull the U.S. and West European public by the assurances of its "peacefulness" so as to dampen protests against Washington's militaristic course and to be able to continue unobstructed large-scale military preparations cannot mislead anyone. The Reagan administration is responsible wholly and completely for the worsening of relations between the USA and the USSR, said former U.S. Ambassador to the USSR Thomas Watson. He condemned the rhetoric of the White House in the spirit of the cold war and pointed out that the realities of international life dictate the need of seeking the roads for coexistence, not the heightening of tension.

TV COMMENTATOR VIEWS WEINBERGER PRESS CONFERENCE

LD141120 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1935 GMT 13 Jan 83

[From the "World Today" program, presented by political observer Igor Fesunenko]

[Text] A report from Washington: U.S. Defense Secretary Caster Weinberger has made a statement at a press conference in Washington that would have caused a sensation if we had not known with whom we are dealing and if we had forgotten the sort of person Mr Weinberger is. The secretary spoke about his plan to reduce military expenditure in the 1984 budget. President Reagan spoke immediately after him and entered into a discourse about the wisdom and competence of his defense secretary.

Well, what is this? Perhaps Weinberger has grown white wings and has become a dove of peace. Nothing of the sort. A close look reveals that this is a matter not of total reduction but rather of a simple reduction in the growth rate of the military budget. Speaking on the NBC TV news program, the well-known political observer, John Chancellor, said that this is a blatant trick and an attempt to deceive U.S. and world public opinion. In fact, Chancellor stressed, it is a question of a purely symbolic reduction in the Pentagon's budget. This measure will not affect such basic Pentagon programs as the construction of the MX missiles and B-1 bombers. WASHINGTON POST commentator Wilson stated that despite these reductions, if one could call them that, the expenditures on military needs in the 1984 budget would increase by 14 percent compared with the level adopted by Congress for 1983.

Thus, it is too early to depict Mr Weinberger as a peacemaker, especially in view of Washington's very routine action of establishing on 1 January the so-called Central Command, which will extend the sphere of its action to 19 states of southwest Asia, the Middle East, northeast Africa, the Persian Gulf and the Indian Ocean.

SENATORS CRITICIZE REAGAN'S MILITARY BUDGET

LD170730 Moscow TASS in English 0711 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Washington January 1 TASS -- Two influential members of the Republican Party have criticized the Reagan administration's policy of outsized military spending. Speaking on television, Robert Dole, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and Pete Domenici, chairman of the Senate Budget Committee, declared that President Reagan should limit the Pentagon budget in order to prevent an increase in the federal budget deficit. In the opinion of the legislators, Ronald Reagan should first of all cut spending on programs of developing strategic weapons systems.

Senator Domenici emphasized that in fiscal 1984 appropriations to the Pentagon were planned to increase by 35 billion dollars over the current fiscal year. Such expenditures could make the U.S. budget deficit grow to 250 or more billion dollars by the mid-1980s. In the senator's words, such a deficit would kill all hopes for the country's economic recovery.

DEVELOPMENT OF NEW U.S. MILITARY AIRCRAFT NOTED

LD151744 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1245 GMT 15 Jan 83

[From the "International Review" program presented by Igor Fesunenko]

[Text] Here are some reports received this week. They convincingly show where the threat to peace is coming from and who is the main culprit to blame for the tension that is poisoning the international atmosphere.

Washington -- The American press has reported that Rockwell International and Lockheed are now developing a new variant of the B-1 strategic bomber, which should go into operation in 1986. Technology being used in the new bomber will make the plane difficult to locate by radar installations. By 1988 the U.S. Air Force plans to purchase 100 aircraft of this type, costing $20.5 billion.

At the same time, the Northrop and Boeing aircraft manufacturers are trying to develop the invisible strategic bomber -- the so-called Stealth aircraft. The cost of this program is being kept secret, but according to press reports it will cost $750 million a year, and the Pentagon is planning to procure 100 such warplanes.

USSR INVOLVEMENT IN NUCLEAR FREEZE MOVEMENT DENIED

PM141637 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Jan 83 Second Edition p 5

[Article by S. Vishnevskiy under the rubric "International Notes": "Where Is This Mill?"]

[Text] Don Quixote de la Mancha refused to see the windmills before his eyes but believed they were giants and rushed at them with his lance at the ready. Some Washington figures have a directly opposite view of things. They imagine windmills everywhere. On the banks of the Potomac the warcry is even being heard: "Forward -- to the windmills!"

Journalists recently heard the following official statement in the White House: "We must find out whether -- whatever good intentions may guide its members -- the movement for a freeze on nuclear arsenals is not adding grist to a mill whose existence these people do not even suspect."

A mysterious mill. People cannot see it. They do not even suspect that it exists. Only Washington's unwinking eye has discerned this mill -- a red one, of Soviet manufacture. For many months in succession now U.S. officials have been asserting that the perfidious Russians are surreptitiously inspiring the simpletons from the antiwar movement in the United States and are manipulating them. The latter, aware of nothing, are adding more and more grist to the "Red mill."

This interesting story comes as a great surprise to many Americans, including eminent legislators in the capitol. They have proved, with the facts to hand, that the movement for a mutual freeze on the nuclear arsenals of the United States and USSR was born on U.S. soil on the initiative of patriots concerned for their motherland's genuine security. Democratic Senator E. Kennedy and his colleague, the Republican M. Hatfield, write in the popular book "Freeze!" ["Zamorozit!"]: "The history of the freeze campaign is the history of an idea which took root in the United States in the eighties because its time had come.... This campaign began in the U.S. backwoods."

In the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD you can find many similar pieces of evidence. "The nuclear freeze movement," Congressman B. Kennelly says, "arose at grassroots level (that is in the backwaters -- S.V.), in neighborhood communities, large and small cities throughout the country. Young men and women, grandmothers and grandfathers, business leaders and religious figures, representatives of all professions are demanding an end to the arms race."

Some 10,765,000 Americans voted for a freeze in the November referendums last year in 9 states and 30 counties and cities. According to public opinion polls the overwhelming majority of the U.S. population advocates this measure. Supporters include a large group of eminent politicians and statesmen, among them many former high-ranking leaders of the Defense Department, the State Department and even the CIA. In no way can you call them naive simpletons adding grist to someone's mill.

Those are the solid facts. But is there any corroboration of the story of the "Red mill?" For several months now reporters have been asking officials this persistently. The latter have hinted with a mysterious air that the administration "has secret intelligence data which cannot be made public."

Last summer the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence took an interest in this subject. In July it held special hearings with an agenda which was regarded as highly sinister: "On the Active Soviet Measures To Directly Encourage the Antiwar and Antinuclear Movement Abroad." CIA Deputy Director J. McMahon delivered a report to the congressmen. He was followed by O'Malley, assistant chief of the FBI intelligence section, and by some other secret agents and informers. They all spoke eagerly and at length. They said almost enough to fill an entire heavy volume. The committee report on the hearings is 337 pages long. A whole mountain of testimonies.

But the mountain gave birth to a mouse; and a dead one at that. This was stated publicly by Edward Boland, the committee's chairman and a congressman from Massachusetts. "The hearings," he said, "have failed to provide proof that the Soviet Union guides, directs or manipulates the movement to freeze nuclear armaments." According to Boland, the FBI's August report and the most recent materials submitted to Congress by the administration are just unsubstantiated. "They give no grounds for concluding that Soviet agents are having any influence on the antiwar movement," the congressman observed.

It would seem that we could stop here. If high-ranking FBI and CIA experts have been unable to substantiate the story of the "Red mill," what more is there to say?

However, anti-Soviet fabrications continue to spread around Washington.

At a White House press conference correspondents asked the President:

"Do you agree with the House committee on intelligence report which states that the champions of a nuclear freeze are not being manipulated by Soviet agents?"

Reagan did not give a direct answer to this question. He referred the press representatives...to the U.S. press. "Several well-documented articles stating that the Russians are involved in the peace campaign have been published in the press," the President said. He immediately added that these articles contain "some exaggerations natural to journalists." In other words, the head of the administration himself has admitted that such publications cannot be taken at face value. Try to figure it out: Where is the exaggeration and where is pure fabrication?

The persistent reporters got their way: The White House press service showed them a list of the articles to which the administration was referring. What did they discover? More than enough fantasies and no facts. The compilers of the slanderous articles make obscure references to "government sources" and government bodies refer to these compilers. The result is a vicious circle.

Who to believe? Officials themselves do not believe their own stories. One high-ranking administration official told a correspondent from Boston's THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR: "I do not believe that Communists are hiding behind the movement." This is a confidential admission from an official who wants to remain anonymous. But when they are playing to the gallery there is a lot of hot air and they try to fool people.

On the Potomac they are evidently following the advice of the ancient Greek theorist of slander, (Mediy). He recommended "making bold use of slander and biting, for in any case the scar will remain."

SHOTS FIRED AT USSR ENVOY'S HOME IN KUALA LUMPUR

LD142000 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] On the eve of 12 January, unknown persons opened fire on the residence of the USSR ambassador in Kuala Lumpur. The bullets were fired into an office on the second floor (?of the building). By good fortune no one was hurt.

The Malaysian Foreign Ministry has expressed concern over the incident. The Kuala Lumpur police department has reported that four people took part in the shooting at the Soviet Embassy in Malaysia and that it was a preplanned act by enemies of Soviet-Malaysian friendship.

LAO LEADERS THANK USSR FOR CONGRATULATIONS

PM141725 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 29 Dec 82 Second Edition p 1

[Text] To the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers:

Dear comrades!

We express profound gratitude to you for the warm words of greeting and good wishes addressed to the Lao people and to us personally on the seventh anniversary of the formation of the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

Allow us to express confidence that the traditional fraternal friendship and comprehensive cooperation between our two parties, states and peoples, based on the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism, will constantly develop and strengthen in the interests of the peoples of our two countries and the entire socialist community.

We take the opportunity to wish you, dear comrades, Soviet Communists and the entire Soviet people new success in the cause of building communism in your country.

Kaysone Phomvihan, secretary general of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and chairman of the Lao Council of Ministers, Souphanouvong, president of Laos and chairman of the Lao Supreme People's Council

BRIEFS

UZBEK TRACTORS TO KAMPUCHEA -- The Uzbek agricultrual machinery factory has exported a consignment of tractors to Kampuchea. Uzbek machinery products are currently being purchased by over 30 countries in the world. [Tashkent International Service in Uzbek 1700 GMT 9 Jan 83 GF]

U.S. VICE PRESIDENT'S WEST EUROPE TRIP PREVIEWED

Olin Commentary

LD131400 Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Viktor Olin commentary]

[Text] The American vice president, George Bush, is due to visit Western Europe (?at the end of) the month. The official aim of the visit is to explain the United States views on disarmament problems. Our staff writer Viktor Olin makes these comments.

Washington is reported to be in a hurry, trying to figure out what political propositions the vice president should take along with him. The mission he is facing is not an easy one. He is expected to (?try to) neutralize, if only in part, the effects of the Soviet Union's latest peace initiatives, and also to weaken criticism of America's attitude to nuclear arms in Europe. So far, according to official sources in Washington, nothing new has yet been invented there. A REUTER report says that officials in the White House and the Pentagon are of the opinion that the vice president should act on the administration's explained attitude to nuclear arms in Europe.

The inference to be drawn from this is that Mr Bush will be told to insist on implementing plans to deploy hundreds of new American nuclear missiles unless the Soviet Union agrees to dismantle its European (?forces) unilaterally by the end of the year.

In this case the vice president will be trying to get a will o' the wisp. In Western Europe, realistic views of the existing situation have become increasingly widespread, with ever more people realizing that general security cannot be based on the insecurity of one of the sides.

There is growing awareness that the way to eliminating the war danger facing Europe lies in ridding the continent of all nuclear weapons, or else in making drastic cuts in intermediate nuclear vehicles on the basis of equality and equal security. Proposals to this effect have been made by the Warsaw Treaty nations, and they have been supplemented by various other proposals for using conventional arms and for concluding a treaty on mutual non-use of armed force, and on maintaining peaceful relations. The Warsaw Treaty countries have offered other ways of reducing tension. If the (?set-up of) their proposals is implemented step by step, it would be possible to create an atmosphere of trust and co-operation in Europe and the rest of the world.

The American vice-president's West European trip is two weeks away. So there's enough time to make a sober-minded analysis of the opportunities that are opened by socialist nations' latest initiatives. Something must be done practically to use these opportunities to the best possible advantage. The United States could show, for instance, that it is willing to move on to a constructive dialogue at the Geneva talks with the Soviet Union about arms reduction and disarmament. The (?salient) instructions about this could also be placed in the vice-president's suitcase. In this case, of course, his tour will be beneficial.

'A Practical Opportunity'

LD160614 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0500 GMT 16 Jan 83

["PRAVDA: It Is Up to the West To Respond" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 16 Jan (TASS) -- The visit announced this week of U.S. Vice President G. Bush to Western Europe pursues the aim of "calming the allies" and of imposing "a unified approach of NATO countries" to proposals of the USSR and other Warsaw Treaty member-states, PRAVDA writes today.

It is only a question of the basis of the common position which is to be worked out. Referring to THE WASHINGTON POST, PRAVDA notes that there is only one minus in the trip by Bush: the need to explain the policy of Ronald Reagan on nuclear disarmament. To be sure, no one knows what the attitude of the President really is toward the prospect of starting talks with the Soviet Union on the subject of concluding an agreement. The President does not know his mind on this issue.

In the capitals of Western Europe, to judge from several press reports, continues the paper, it is suspected that optimistic forecasts on the results of the talks in Geneva and assurance of "adherence to the cause of peace and disarmament" which were again heard in the speech by R. Reagan on 12 January, were brought about first and foremost by caution with regard to the allies and by the 1984 presidential election which is getting nearer. To appear to U.S. voters and the Western Europeans in the role of "peacemaker" seems to be as desirable as can be just now to the Washington administration.

Evidently, notes the article, the U.S. Administration is not about to give up the arms race. This is indicated by budget calculations for the fiscal year 1984 according to which defense expenditure will be around $250 billion. Incidentally, this is confirmed by a letter about which the press recently learned, from Reagan to G. Camp, an influential congressman, in which the President stated that "if he doesn't get the MX missile then it is not out of the question that the Geneva arms limitation talks will be called off."

"Just now," concludes PRAVDA "when, in accordance with peaceful proposals advanced in Prague, a practical opportunity is opening up for stopping the present dangerous turn of events and for turning them on to a healthy course, strengthening mutual trust and solving the tasks of restricting and reducing arsenals of weapons, especially nuclear ones, one after the other, whether the opportunity to avert an increase in nuclear missile weapons in Europe will be realized and whether the threat hanging over the peoples of the continent and indeed the entire world will be weakened or on the contrary sharply strengthened, depends precisely on the United States and its NATO allies.

GROMYKO IN FRG FOR OFFICIAL TALKS 16-19 JAN

Departs for FRG Visit

LD161228 Moscow TASS in English 1219 GMT 16 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 16 TASS - Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politbureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, has left Moscow for West Germany today at the invitation of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

He was seen off at the airport by Mikhail Gorbachev, member of the Politbureau and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Boris Ponomarev, alternate member of the Politbureau and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; deputy ministers of foreign affairs of the USSR and other officials.

There was among those present H. Huber, West Germany's charge d'affaires in the USSR.

Airport Arrival Statement

LD161734 Moscow TASS in English 1718 GMT 16 Jan 83

[Text] Bonn January 16 TASS -- Member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Foreign Minister of the USSR Andrey Gromyko came for an official visit to Bonn on January 16 at the invitation of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

At the airport, decorated with national flags of the USSR and the FRG, the guest was met by deputy federal chancellor, Foreign Minister of the FRG Hans-Dietrich Genscher and other officials. The USSR Ambassador to the FRG Vladimir Semenov was among the welcoming party.

At the airport Andrey Gromyko made the following statement:

We have come to Bonn for an official visit at the invitation of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The aim of the visit is to continue the political dialogue which has been actively maintained by the Soviet Union and the FRG in the previous years. But the matter is not only the established tradition. A frank dialogue between the USSR and the FRG, consolidation of mutual confidence are particularly important now, in conditions of the complicated international situation.

I should like to emphasize, said Andrey Gromyko, that we view, as before the future of Soviet-West German relations in peaceful coexistence and cooperation, but not in confrontation and hostility. It stands to reason that we expect the same approach also from the Federal Republic of Germany.

I think that we shall have no lack of topics for discussion with FRG statesmen. We are, certainly, not going to bypass in silence also those problems on which we have different views. I believe that the main attention will be paid to the cardinal issue of our time -- how to prevent the dangerous nuclear arms race in Europe, how to make peace on our continent stronger. We believe that the efforts of all European states should be directed at solution of this task.

Let me convey the best of wishes to the people of the FRG and the residents of Bonn.

DPA Reports on Visit

LD161625 Hamburg DPA in German 1525 GMT 16 Jan 83

[Text] On arriving, Gromyko said that he believed and hoped that the impending exchange of views in Bonn would be useful. He said that during his visit, important topics would be discussed which were currently of interest, above all the question of European security. He added that there would be a detailed exchange of views on this issue in particular. The foreign minister expressed thanks for the warm reception and said he was pleased to be paying another official visit to the Federal Republic.

Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher had stated that the Federal Government attributed considerable importance to Gromyko's visit in the current international situation. Bonn saw an opportunity for continuing the dialogue with Moscow and discussing issues which were important to the Federal Republic and the Soviet Union, including above all questions of disarmament and arms control. He was sure, Genscher said, that the visit would be a contribution toward better understanding.

In a series of talks with Gromyko, Federal Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Foreign Minister Genscher want to give renewed emphasis to the Federal Republic's urgent interest in real disarmament. On Monday, Genscher is to meet Gromyko twice for intensive discussions. A meeting with the Federal President is also the agenda.

On Tuesday morning a prolonged talk between Kohl and Gromyko is planned before the Soviet foreign minister holds a press conference, at his own request. The program also includes discussions between Gromyko and CSU [Christian Social Union] Chairman Franz-Josef Strauss, SPD [Social Democrat Party] Chairman Willy Brandt and SPD Chancellor candidate Hans-Jochen Vogel.

Before his departure at noon on Wednesday Gromyko is to hold another talk with Genscher.

In a statement conveyed by the Soviet side to DPA, Gromyko stressed that the Soviet Union would in future continue to perceive its relationship with the Federal Republic as being one of peaceful coexistence and cooperation, and "not confrontation and enmity." Naturally Moscow expects the same approach from the Federal Republic.

His visit is aimed at continuing the political dialogue which the Soviet Union and the Federal Republic had actively conducted in the past. An open dialogue between the two countries and the strengthening of mutual trust are particularly important in the present "complex situation". Gromyko announced that in his talks in Bonn he will not pass over in silence the problems that are seen differently by the two sides. In his view, overriding attention will be paid to the "key issue of our time," that of how the dangerous nuclear arms race in Europe can be harnessed and how peace could be consolidated on the continent. "We believe that the efforts of all European states should be directed at the solution to this task."

Official Talks Begin

LD170936 Hamburg DPA in German 0921 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Bonn, 17 Jan (DPA) -- Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Andrey Gromyko began their official political talks in Bonn today in the midst of a growing dispute between parties in the Federal Republic. On arrival on Sunday, the Soviet foreign minister made a markedly friendly statement, stressing the will for peaceful coexistence and cooperation with Bonn.

Genscher received his Soviet colleague at the Foreign Ministry's guest residence, a villa on Venusberg Mountain. The exchange of views began yesterday evening, however, when Gromyko was invited to Genscher's private home for an unofficial dinner with a small group of people.

Disarmament Discussed

LD171208 Hamburg DPA in German 1141 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Bonn 17 Jan (DPA) -- Following an initial round of official talks with Federal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko was received for a courtesy visit in Bonn today by Federal President Karl Carsten. The discussion was expected to last 45 minutes. In the afternoon, Gromyko will meet Genscher for a second round of talks. A meeting with Federal Chancellor Hulmut Kohl is planned for Tuesday.

It was learned that the 2-hour discussion with Genscher which was attended by delegations of both sides, centered on disarmament questions and, above all, the subject of medium-range missiles. The Federal Government earlier announced that it wanted to explain to Gromyko its earnest will to achieve by way of negotiations the dismantling of all Eastern medium-range missiles so that Western counterarming could then be avoided.

The talks between Genscher and Gromyko were attended on the German side by State Secretary Hans-Werner Lautenschlager of the Foreign Ministry, head of the political department Franz Pfeffer and the Federal Government official with responsibility for disarmament, Ambassador Friedrich Ruth. Gromyko brought with him his first deputy, Georgiy Korniyenko, the European Department chief A.P. Bondarneko, and his personal adviser Vasiliy G. Makarov.

STRESSED NEED FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH FRG

LD161503 Moscow TASS in English 1348 GMT 16 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 16 TASS -- "Economic cooperation between West Germany and the Soviet Union has long become a major component of their bilateral relations," SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA notes today. "This is graphically illustrated by the growth of trade turnover between the two countries. While in 1970 bilateral trade was worth 544 million roubles, in 1981 it reached six billion roubles, an eleven-fold growth."

According to the newspaper, the Soviet Union "buys from West Germany metallurgical equipment, automated production lines, metal-cutting machinetools, hoisting and conveying machinery, industrial fittings, plants for the chemical pulp-and-paper, food and light industries, some types of farm machinery and many other products."

There is a good demand on the West German market "for oil and petroproducts, timber, chemicals, cotton, non-ferrous metals, and West German companies willingly buy Soviet metal-cutting machine-tools, photo cameras, binoculars, watches and clocks and many other manufacturered goods."

The Soviet Union's trade representative to West Germany, Vladimir Novikov, has told SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA'S correspondent that "healthy principles are prevailing" in relations between the USSR and West Germany. "An analysis of trade between the two countries for the ten months of last year gives reason to believe, he added, "that trade between the two countries in 1982 is worth close to seven billion dollars, which is a 14-16 per cent rise on 1981. There is every reason to say that the objective need to extend mutually beneficial trade outweighs the opposition of certain forces to economic cooperation."

USSR-FRENCH JOINT TRADE COMMISSION SESSION ENDS

Result of Session

LD140009 Moscow TASS in English 1916 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Text] Paris January 13 TASS -- The standing mixed Soviet-French Commission completed today its 17th session in the French Foreign Trade Center here. The session was chaired by Michel Jobert, minister of state, foreign trade minister of France. The Soviet delegation was headed by Guriy Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Science and Technology.

The session's participants considered in detail questions of Soviet-French trade, economic and scientific and technical cooperation, paying main attention to prospects of its advancement deepening. In this connection the sides expressed the common intention to continue the realisation of agreements signed and accords reached between the two countries in the interests of the further consolidation of mutually beneficial relations in the spirit of cooperation.

The session's communique points out that trade and economic relations between the two countries received further development in recent time. Soviet-French trade between 1980 and 1982 will exceed 11.5 billion roubles, which is 2.5 times more than during the first three years of the previous five-year period.

Scientific and technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and France, the communique stresses, is successfully developing in line with appropriate agreements.

The session's participants coordinated a new long-term programme of deepening Soviet-French cooperation in the field of science and technology for the period of 1983-1993. The commission examined and approved measures for 1983-1985 on implementing the long-term programme of deepening economic, industrial and technical cooperation between the USSR and France for the period of 1980-1990.

Michel Jobert told a press conference here that the present session will make a new considerable contribution to developing cooperation between France and the USSR. Guriy Marchuk pointed out that the Soviet Union will continue to favour deeper all-round relations with France in the field of economy, science and technology.

Guriy Marchuk was received by Prime Minister of France Paul Mauroy.

Their conversation focused on questions of bilateral Soviet-French relations. It was pointed out that recent contacts at various levels between the two countries are evidence of mutual interest in the further expansion of cooperation in various spheres. The sides expressed their intention to expand mutually beneficial trade, economic and scientific and technical cooperation which corresponds to the interests of the USSR and France.

Jobert on Economic Talks

LD142036 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 14 Jan 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Excerpts] The session of the standing mixed Soviet-French commission has ended in Paris. Reportage is by our correspondent Anatoliy Potapov:

France's ruling circles accorded great significance to this Soviet-French dialogue in Paris. At the Elysee Palace, the leader of the Soviet delegation was received by Francois Mitterrand, president of the republic. During the conversation it was stressed that the expansion of mutually advantageous cooperation between both countries is a considerable element in peace in Europe. A thorough examination of questions of Soviet-French relations was made during the conversation between the head of the Soviet delegation and the prime minister of France, Pierre Mauroy.

Those taking part in the session told journalists at a press conference that important contracts already signed in the gas industry will be implemented. Great attention will be paid by both sides to their links in agriculture. Note was made of the good result of joint research in space for peaceful purposes. Preparations were completed for a new 10-year program of deepening cooperation in science and technology, which is expected to be adopted this year.

And what is the assessment of the French side of the session which has just been held? Here is an interview given to us by Mr Michel Jobert, minister of state for foreign trade:

[Begin Jobert video recording in French fading into Russian translation] The sense of the session is clear. It was useful. Certain difficulties which were encountered in the development of our economic ties have been set aside. We analyzed specific possibilities of advancing our cooperation and we shall go further along the path of consolidating our all-round ties. This is always advantageous, not only for the economies of the two countries, but in general for the cause of accord and cooperation in relations between the Soviet Union and France. [end video recording]

Marchuk on French Exports

LD142045 Kuwait KUNA in English 1823 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Paris, Jan 14 (KUNA) -- The deputy president of the Soviet Cabinet Yuriy Marchuk has warned that France will only be able to increase its exports to the Soviet Union and thereby reduce its trade deficit if it maintains favourable financing conditions for the goods it supplies.

But the minister has expressed readiness to consider cash payment of contracts if this will help solve the problem posed by the increase in interest rates that France is now obliged to charge the Soviets for export credits.

In an interview published in the French daily LE MONDE Marchuk said that trade between the two countries during 1980 and 1982 had been higher than in the previous five years at 11.5 billion roubles compared to 9 billions (85 billion francs compared to 57 billions). For the period 1981 and 1982 French companies had won orders totalling 32 billion roubles.

"But if France is to successfully develop its exports of machinery, equipment and other goods to the USSR, in other words reduce its trade deficit, efforts must be made by both sides and favourable trading conditions be maintained including the conditions of financing French exports," he said.

Asked about the possibility of paying cash, the minister said that supplies of major equipment usually involved appropriate credit arrangements, but "if it is in the interest of both parties for a specific project and if difficulties arise for financing in the usual way, we do not exclude the use of cash payment methods," he declared.

France is hoping to reduce its current nine billion franc trade deficit with the Soviet Union to half this year, but is finding it difficult to win Soviet orders after being obliged to raise its interest terms to 12.4 per cent from 7.9 per cent as a result of a recent agreement between major Western nations. The problem was overcome in a recent contract for a six million cubic metre year natural gas treatment plant for Astrakhan by the Soviets agreeing to a cash settlement.

Chevenement, Ministers Meet Marchuk

LD141759 Moscow TASS in English 1745 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] Paris January 14 TASS -- Deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Chairman of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology G.I. Marchuk, staying here in connection with the 17th session of the permanent mixed Soviet-French commission, held in Paris, met today with State Minister and Minister for Scientific Research and Industry of France Jean-Pierre Chevenement, Minister of Economy and Finance Jacques Delors and Minister of Agriculture Edith Cresson.

During the meetings, they discussed a broad range of issues of the trade and economic ties between the two countries. Both sides underscored the big importance of the 17th session of the Soviet-French commission, whcih ended its work, for a further development of the mutually advantageous cooperation between the USSR and France. They also expressed the intention to broaden and deepen the relations between the two countries.

U.S. MOVES TO CURTAIL FRENCH-SOVIET TRADE NOTED

LD170924 Moscow TASS in English 0842 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 17 TASS -- "France is the USSR's third biggest trading partner among Western European countries," PRAVDA's Paris correspondent Ivan Shchedrov says in a dispatch published today. "Washington is exerting undisguised pressure on France, demanding that it sharply scale down its trade and economic cooperation with the socialist countries," he says. "The French Government has opposed this policy. Noting a 'historical continuity' in Soviet-French relations and going on record in favour of developing them further, President Francois Mitterrand declared in an interview with the newspaper LE MONDE: 'I am against any form of an economic blockade against Russia, and France will not suspend its trade with it.'

"The number, as well as the level, of business visits in recent months has grown noticeably," the dispatch says. "Moscow has been visited by the minister for agriculture, acientific research and industry as well as a number of important delegations. Several major long-term agreements have been signed."

French Foreign Trade Minister Michel Jobert recalled in a conversation with the correspondent that in January 1982 a 25-year agreement was signed providing for Soviet natural gas supplies to France and for the deliveries of French equipment for building the Urengoy-Uzhgorod gas pipeline in the USSR. The realisation of this agreement will already in the nearest future open jobs for tens of thousands of French workers, which is especially important considering the fact that unemployment in France has reached a record scope.

"Soviet-French trade in 1980-82 stood at 11,500 million roubles, 150 percent up on the level achieved in 1976-78," the dispatch says.

"Great significance has been attached here to the success of the 17th meeting of the Soviet-French standing mixed commission, which took place in Paris from January 11 to 13," Ivan Shchedrov concludes. "It did not only sum up the results of joint work, it indicated guidelines for trade, economic, scientific, technological and cultural cooperation in a period extending beyond this decade."

USSR-SWEDEN FOREIGN MINISTRIES HOLD MEETINGS

LD151155 Moscow TASS in English 1146 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 15 TASS -- Consultations within the framework of the Foreign Ministries of the USSR and Sweden were held in Moscow on January 12-15, during which the sides exchanged views on a number of international problems of mutual interest, as well as on questions connected with bilateral Soviet-Swedish relations.

The consultations were attended from the Soviet side by the USSR Deputy Foreign Ministers Viktor Maltsev and Anatoliy Kovalyov, other high-ranking officials of the USSR Foreign Ministry, and from the Swedish side -- by the Secretary General of the Foreign Ministry of Sweden Pierre Schori, Sweden's Ambassador to the USSR Carl de Deer, high-ranking officials of the Swedish Foreign Ministry and the embassy in the USSR.

REPORTAGE, COMMENT ON 'ARAFAT MOSCOW VISIT

'Arafat Interview

LD150256 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Interview with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by Sergey Krylov in Moscow; date not given; recorded]

[Text] [Begin recording] [Question] Brother Abu 'Ammar, can you evaluate the results of your talks with the Soviet leaders?

[Answer] I held very important talks in the Kremlin with Comrade Andropov in which Comrades Gromyko, Ponomarev and other Soviet leaders took part. In the Palestinian delegation with me Comrade Khalid al-Fahum, chairman of the Palestinian National Council; and Comrades Faruq al-Qaddumi, Ahmad al-Yamani and Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, members of the Executive Committee, took part. The talks were held in a cordial and friendly atmosphere, which we have grown to expect during meetings with the Soviet leadership. We have ties of comradeship and friendship with them, which we also have with all the Soviet peoples, based on deep understanding and on the firm attitudes of the Soviet Union toward the Palestinian people and its just cause, including its right to return to its homeland and set up its independent state with Jerusalem as its capital.

Also, I can say that these talks dealt with all the sensitive problems in the Middle East region including the results of the war of Lebanon, the war kindled by the United States, which financed it and armed Israel and then pushed the mercenaries in the Israeli Army to carry out this evil, fascist and barbaric aggression against the Palestinian and Lebanese people that caused 72,000 Palestinian and Lebanese to be killed or wounded in addition to 5,000 children and women -- victims of the Sabra and Shatila massacres. Also the talks dealt with the political situation in the Middle East, especially the separate deals which the United States is trying to impose on the region and the present U.S. -Israeli attempt to impose separate peace on the Lebanese and other dangerous plans through which the United States is trying to impose its control over the Middle East.

During the talks I thanked the USSR in the name of the Palestinian people and the PLO for all the military, moral and political support which our people, cause and our revolutionaries have received from our friends in the USSR. Also we discussed Soviet-Palestinian bilateral relations. Here I want to confirm the importance of this relationship, which we nurture and care for. We are proud of the militant relationship between us and the comrades in the Soviet leadership whom we consider to be the real friends of our Palestinian people and of our cause and all the causes of our Arab nation.

This is a quick summary of the talks. There were, of course, other matters which we discussed but there is no scope for mentioning them on the radio. On the whole, the results have been positive, constructive and satisfactory and I can say that I am pleased with these results.

[Question] Thank you very much. In light of what you have said, how will Soviet-Palestinian relations develop?

[Answer] As I have said, I am proud of these relations. We in the Palestinian revolution are eager to develop and strengthen them. Today we heard a confirmation from Comrade Andropov on consolidating and strengthening this relationship. We also heard from Comrade Andropov that the firm and lasting Soviet attitude of support for the Palestinian people and its struggle and the struggle of the Arab nation cannot be doubted and that no anxiety and wariness will affect it. Rather it is firm and will become stronger, in consolidation of Soviet-Palestinian relations.

[Question] Thank you very much. [end recording]

13 Jan Press Conference

LD150320 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] On 13 January a press conference was held by the PLO delegation at the press center of the USSR Foreign Ministry in Moscow that was attended by Soviet and foreign journalists. The chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and leader of the delegation, in his brief opening statement, highly evaluated the results of the Soviet-Palestinian talks and described them as being constructive, positive and fruitful. The PLO Executive Committee chairman pointed out: We have found in the Soviet leadership a positive response and total understanding of all the problems which were discussed. Yasir 'Arafat then replied to questions by the correspondents.

A question was asked by the REUTER correspondent in Moscow. He asked: Did you find total support in the Soviet Union regarding what you intend to do in connection with your relations with Jordan? Yasir 'Arafat said in reply to this question:

[Begin recording] I see a role for the Soviet leaders and the friendly Soviet leadership with regard to Palestinian-Jordanian relations. His Majesty King Husayn earlier had told them something similar. The Soviet leaders informed me that they approve whatever is approved by the Palestinian people, including the confederal relations between our independent state -- Palestine -- and Jordan. I have explained to the Soviet leadership the desire of King Husayn and my own desire that these confederal relations be established through the approval of the representatives of both peoples; that is to say, through a Palestinian-Jordanian popular referendum. I have found complete understanding of this issue. You see this quite clearly in one of the paragraphs of the joint communique. [end recording]

Yasir 'Arafat then replied to a question by the Soviet television and radio correspondent who said: The United States is trying to play the role of mediator in the settlement of relations between Israel and the Arabs. The United States, at any rate, continuously declares this. What can you say in this connection?

[Begin recording] They can tell such a lie to any person except me. For 3 months I held talks with Philip Habib. He used to talk in the name of the Israelis. It is not time yet for me to reveal the papers which Habib and I exchanged. I insisted that the dialogue between us be in writing. He used to write notes and then I used to write notes in reply and he used to reply to my notes. I have all these documents. Philip Habib has these notes in writing. Here I would like to ask a question: How can this be interpreted in international law? Is it not negotiation? But nevertheless they are still saying: We do not recognize the PLO. One of their lies.

As for the other issue -- the guarantees which were given to me by Philip Habib, in his capacity as the envoy of the U.S. President -- when I handed over the city I did so according to a written agreement between us. Regrettably, he did not honor this agreement. More than that: I handed the city to 54 UN observers and to the multinational force -- the U.S.-Italian-French force. But nevertheless, this force allowed the Israeli forces to storm Beirut contrary to the clauses of the agreement. They particularly withdrew before the date agreed upon between us.

This issue was the main point during the talks at my first meeting with Italian Foreign Minister Colombo and French Foreign Minister Cheysson. I told them: You together with the Americans shoulder the responsibility for the massacres of Sabra and Shatila. You allowed these Israeli murderers to enter our camps while you were responsible, according to this agreement, for the protection of these camps. They said that this was under U.S. pressure to pull out.

The list is long. The time will come when I will reveal all these things. I will reveal how, when the neogitations between Philip Habib and myself used to stumble, the air raids, naval bombardment and land shelling of besieged Beirut -- the raids and shelling of women and children -- used to increase. In view of these means which Philip Habib used to employ, thousands of children, women and men were killed -- Lebanese and Palestinians -- in Beirut. These means were employed in order to blackmail us to accept a condition here or a condition there in these negotiations between him and me.

How many times did the United States obstruct the convening of the UN Security Council? How many times did the United States use the veto during the 3 months of fighting? It was the most it has ever used the veto. It appears that the U.S. Administration, when it says that it was one side in the negotiations, did not read what former U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig said during his recent visit to Israel. Alexander Haig admitted in a number of statements when he recently visited Israel that he had planned, financed and armed the Israeli campaign against Lebanon, against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples. [end recording]

The press conference was a long one. The Palestinian leader talked in detail about the tasks and aims of the PLO during the coming stage and its political relations with the Arab countries and other countries, particularly with the Soviet Union. Yasir 'Arafat pointed out in particular that the PLO welcomes the Soviet Union's attitude which supports the program of just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East laid down at the meeting of the Arab leaders in Fes. Yasir 'Arafat pointed out that the Soviet Union's program in this connection is in agreement with the Fes program.

Dear listeners, we shall present to you in our future programs Yasir 'Arafat's other replies to questions by Soviet and foreign journalists at the Moscow press conference.

Further on Press Conference

LD162034 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 16 Jan 83

[Words enclosed in slantlines spoken in English]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, today we continue giving you the answers of Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, to the questions of Soviet and foreign journalists at his press conference in Moscow on 13 January 1983.

The correspondent of the Soviet paper IZVESTIYA asked Yasir 'Arafat the following question: Much is being said nowadays about the poor quality of Soviet weapons in the hands of the Palestinian resistance movement and the Syrian Army. What do you think about this issue? Yasir 'Arafat answered:

[Begin recording] But was I fighting with American arms? I was fighting with Soviet arms. And the strongest army in the region, as it claims to be -- I do not admit that it is the strongest army in the region -- had in its hands the most sophisticated American weapons. As was admitted by Mr Weinberger, Beirut and Lebanon were, in fact, a testing ground for these advanced and modern weapons, some of which were prohibited internationally -- but this army was stopped for 79 days before the walls of the resistance in Beirut. It was unable to storm Beirut. I left Beirut because my Lebanese allies asked me to leave. Well, I want to ask you: With what arms was I fighting? With Soviet weapons! [end recording]

A number of correspondents of American papers and news agencies then asked the following question to the chairman of the PLO Executive Committee: You have said in the past that President Reagan's plans for a settlement in the Middle East contained positive points, but today you reject them categorically. How should this be understood? Yasir 'Arafat answered:

[Begin recording] Indeed I said that there were positive things in the Reagan plan. But the Reagan proposals ignored the basic and central subject of the Middle East question: They ignored the rights of the Palestinian people adopted by international legality. It is my right to ask President Reagan: At the same time, or shortly afterwards, the American Administration issued a statement that it agreed to the right to self-determination for the inhabitants of the Falklands or the Malvinas. I want to call them the Malvinas not the Falklands so that Mrs Thatcher may hear me. The number of inhabitants there is 1,800! Reagan denies the right to self-determination to the Palestinian people, which number about 5 million people. It is my right to ask this superpower: How is it that it denied the right to self-determination for any people? It is a sacred right. [end recording]

The correspondent of APN then asked Yasir 'Arafat the following question: The American newspapers published affirmations that the implementation of the Reagan plan was intended to span several years. Don't you consider this to be proof that the United States has decided to abandon this plan? Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, answered:

[Begin recording] I haven't changed my opinion. There is no American intention to resolve the Middle East question, because anyone bent on solving any problem must solve the main knot of such a problem, otherwise the problem is not solved. The main issue of the Middle East question is the rights of the Palestinian people.

I remember, and let me remind you also, that when the Americans went to pressure As-Sadat, and As-Sadat went alone with them to Camp David, they said: This is the last war. It was after Camp David that the farce took place: Begin, the killer of women and children, was awarded half of the Nobel Peace prize, and As-Sadat, unfortunately, took the other half! And then they said: No more war! But the war against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples proved to be the longest of the Arab-Israeli wars. It was in fact longer than all the Arab-Israeli wars put together. And it is not only me who says so! Some Israeli intellectuals and writers have written: the longest Arab war, the /longest war/. The most horrible crimes were committed in this war, crimes for which war criminals had been tried in Nuremberg courts: /annihilation and genocide/.

For this reason, I cannot see how certain people -- including Americans -- can speak about solutions while avoiding the essential issue in the Middle East: the rights of the Palestinian people. Besides, we are not asking for the impossible. It is my right to ask the United States, in its capacity as a /superpower/: Does it or does it not respect international legality? We speak about and ask only for international legality. International legality speaks about the right of the Palestinians to return, to self-determination and to set up an independent Palestinian state. I say, and events have borne this out: There can be no peace, no stability, no settlement, no security in the Middle East by overlooking the inalienable national rights of the Palestinian people adopted by international legality. And, in accordance with the UN Charter and UN resoltuions our people have the right to employ all means to defend itself and to defend its children and women. As for the American retreat, it is not the first retreat nor is it the last. Mahmud Riyad, former secretary general of the Arab League and former Egyptian foreign minister, recorded 68 American retreats on decisions they have taken or proposals they had put forward. 68 -- officially, in official documents. [end recording]

Ladies and gentlemen, we have given you from Moscow the final program on the press conference held by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, in Moscow on 13 January 1983 on the results of the official working visit paid by the PLO delegation to the Soviet Union in January 1983.

Moscow TV Assesses Visit

LD150222 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 14 Jan 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] The results of the official working visit to the USSR by a PLO delegation led by Yasir 'Arafat, its friendly meetings with Soviet leaders and the joint Soviet-Palestinian communique have evoked a widespread response abroad. Here is political observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov.

[Begin Seyful-Mulyukov video recording] Good Day, comrades. The Soviet-Palestinian meeting in Moscow has attracted attention throughout the world. This indeed is understandable. The Palestinian issue is the main knot in the Near East conflict and the constructive position of the Soviet Union on settling this conflict is of paramount international importance.

For the first time since Israel's invasion of Lebanon, Soviet and Palestinian leaders discussed the entire situation in the Near East as a whole. The results of this indepth analysis are reflected in the joint communique. They were spoken of, too, by Yasir 'Arafat at his press conference in Moscow. We met with a positive response from the Soviet leadership, he said, and full understanding of all the problems discussed in the talks.

This was a very broad range of vital issues: how to get a Near East settlement out of deadlock, how to achieve an end to Israel's occupation of Lebanon, how to put a stop to the anti-Arab intrigues of Washington and Tel Aviv and how to secure the national rights of the Palestinian people.

The constantly explosive situation in the Near East is a most graphic reflection of the U.S. aggressive, imperialist policy. Indeed, it is the United States that serves as a prop for the Israeli invaders and an obstacle to the achievement of genuine peace in the area. On the basis of the example of the tragic events in its own country, the Lebanese ASH-SHA'B appraises the behavior of the White House thus: The White House gives guarantees and straightaway violates them, makes promises and instantly changes its word, solemnly swears and then retreats from its oath. This hypocrisy and perfidy have been personally experienced by the inhabitants of West Beirut, which have been mutilated by the aggressors using U.S. weapons. It has been experienced by the Palestinians in the camps of Sabra and Shatila, who trusted U.S. guarantees and fell victims to bloody carnage.

Not only the Palestinians and Lebanese but the majority of Arabs no longer have illusions regarding U.S. policy. The Reagan administration is striving to prevent the creation of an independent Palestinian state and to bar the PLO from settlement talks. In Lebanon, working hand in hand, the Americans and the Israelis are attempting to impose a onesided, separate peace on the country. The war in Lebanon is not over yet, Eytan, Israeli chief of general staff, stated the other day. The Israeli Army will remain in the country to turn military achievements into political achievements.

The invaders, however, have a further goal: to weaken Syria's security. Over the past few days Israel has dispatched large armed forces to the Syrian borders. In preparation for fresh aggression there is a chorus of anti-Syrian outbursts that is being whipped up in Tel Aviv and Washington over the fact that Syria has been strengthening its air defenses on its own soil. The White House kept silent when the Israeli fascists annihilated the peaceful population of Lebanon but now, when Syria is strengthening its defenses in face of Israel's military actions and threats, Washington has suddenly been displaying hypocritical anxiety.

As the Soviet-Palestinian communique stresses, the situation now existing in the Near East requires as never before the cohesion and unity of action of all Arabs. At the Fes conference they drew up a plan for a Near East settlement which to all intents and purposes coincides with well-known proposals by the Soviet Union. Thus there is a real possibility for coordinated action by all those favoring a just peace in the Near East. The Soviet-Palestinian summit meeting in Moscow is an important step in this direction. [end video recording]

Jordan-PLO Confederation Viewed

LD150624 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1500 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Talk by Aleksandr Timoshkin]

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen, good evening. Today I want to draw your attention to one aspect of the Palestinian-Soviet talks held in Moscow: What did the PLO mean by the creation of confederal relations on the basis of the freedom of choice between the independent Palestinian state after its establishment and Jordan? The Soviet side understood this attitude of the PLO. This came in the joint communique on the results of the talks of Yasir 'Arafat with Soviet leaders. The PLO leader later spoke at a press conference in Moscow and explained that the issue of the confederation between the Palestinian state and Jordan will not only be decided by their leaders alone but also by their peoples in a referendum in the future. Yasir 'Arafat also said at the press conference that the Soviet leaders, after they heard this information from him, supported the solution to be chosen by the Palestinian people themselves.

Gentlemen, I do not dwell in detail on future Palestinian-Jordanian relations without a reason: The ruling quarters in the United States and its strategic ally Israel are persistently trying to exploit this issue in order to deprive the Palestinian people of their rights. It is known that Tel Aviv and Washington totally reject the sacred right of the Palestinian people to their independent state on the soil of their homeland. The U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance, with persistence which would have been better used in other, better matters, is trying to impose a solution to the Palestinian problem on the Palestinian and Jordan peoples and their leaders that is in fact not a solution but a distorted and poisoned picture of a solution. The objective is to transform Jordan into an alleged Palestinian state by settling the largest number of Palestinians in Jordan. Tel Aviv insists that Gaza and the West Bank be an inseparable part of the land of Israel and that there cannot be talks on their liberation.

Naturally for the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and recognized as such by more than 120 countries in the world and by the UN, there can be no talk of any deal at the expense of the first and basic right of the Palestinian Arab people: the right to self-determination and of setting up an independent state in their homeland. During the Palestinian-Soviet summit talks, this firm and principled attitude was confirmed once again. This attitude enjoys every support of the great majority of Arab countries as shown by the resolutions of the Fes summit. Consequently, there is a real possibility for coordinated action among the PLO, Arab countries, the USSR and all other parties that show not only in words but also in actions vital interest in reaching a truly just solution to the Palestinian problem and a just peace in the whole of the Middle East. Thank you and peace be upon you.

LEBANON, ISRAEL REACH AGREEMENT ON AGENDA

LD151344 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 14 Jan 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Nikolay Grechko]

[Text] News agencies have reported that the sixth round of the Lebanese-Israeli talks in Qiryat Shemona with the participation of U.S. envoy Draper has led to an agreement regarding the agenda of the negotiations. It took 3 weeks to reach this agreement. This was due to the desire of both Washington and Tel Aviv to compel the Lebanese side to begin discussing the question of the so-called normalization of relations between Israel and Lebanon, while the latter kept insisting that the main issue for discussion should be the immediate withdrawal of the Israeli occupation force from its territory. In the end, through the U.S. envoy, Lebanon and Israel accepted a formula for the agenda which made both Washington and Tel Aviv, who do not conceal their aspirations, enthusiastic. Both of them hope that it will now be easy for them to corner the Lebanese side during the agenda negotiations and impose on it conditions which are beneficial to both Washington and Tel Aviv.

As for the reaction of the Lebanese Government to the agreement reached at Qiryat Shemona, it was more reserved. Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said that the first question in the forthcoming negotiations will remain -- as far as Lebanon is concerned -- the total withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied areas of Lebanon. As for the so-called normalization, he said that Lebanon was still of the opinion that there could not be any changes in relations with Israel.

Moscow Comments on Agenda

LD152156 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 15 Jan 83

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program prepared by A. Timoshkin]

[Text] The propaganda clamor continues to grow in the United States and Israel as a result of the agreement reached on the agenda for the talks imposed on Lebanon. Together with Tel Aviv, Washington is trying to portray this fact as a political triumph. They agreed to the talks on Lebanon in order to implement their far-reaching plans which concern not only Lebanon but also other Arab states. Therefore, it is not by coincidence that the most important issues as far as Lebanon is concerned, namely the evacuation of Zionist interventionist forces from Lebanese territory, has been placed on the agenda of the talks only as item four.

The American-Israeli alliance sees ending the state of war between Lebanon and Israel as the first topic on the agenda of the talks, to be followed by the so-called special arrangements for guaranteeing security. One wonders: whose security? Naturally, the security of Israel, which unleashed criminal aggression on Lebanon and which continues to occupy a large part of its territory, where the Zionists are still carrying out bloody acts of brigandry.

Under such circumstances the aggressor in Lebanon and his strategic ally -- the United States -- are demanding so-called normalization of Lebanon's relations with Tel Aviv. This is considered to be the third item on the agenda of the tripartite talks. In other words, Tel Aviv and Washington are primarily seeking the capitulation of the Lebanese Government. After that they could, according to their claim, discuss the question of the aggressor's forces from Lebanon. Here, too, they are trying to impose their conditions on Lebanon. Tel Aviv and Washington insist on the evacuation of Israeli forces at an indefinite date on condition that Syrian forces within the Arab defense forces and the detachments of Palestinian fighters withdraw simultaneously.

But it is common knowledge that the presence of Syrian and Palestinian forces in Lebanon is a question that concerns the government of that country alone. If such an issue needs discussion, this could only be done within the framework of the Arab League and Lebanon itself. The United States, and particularly the Israeli aggressor, have no right to deal with this question. It seems from statements made by Lebanese leaders that they have adopted the view that evacuation of the Israeli interventionist forces from their troubled country is their most important problem. Only on the basis of the evacuation of Israeli forces can conditions be found for genuine normalization of the life of the Lebanese people, who have suffered much.

BEIRUT PAPER CITED ON 'EARLY WARNING STATION'

LD152126 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Leonid Rassadin report from Beirut]

[Text] It is expected that the U.S. envoy will arrive in the Lebanese capital at the end of the week. He has begun his tour of the region with a visit to Israel. Many observers here are highly suspicious of the U.S. envoy's new Near East mission, and they have good reason for this. His shuttle diplomacy in the past has invariably resulted in a further straining of tension. But this time, in order to reassure the Arab public, rumors have begun to circulate in Tel Aviv and Washington about the alleged worsening of Israeli-American relations. The Beirut ASH-SHA'B called this uproar a camouflage aimed at distracting the Arabs' attention from the collusion between Israel and the United States. Israeli-American strategic cooperation every day acquires an increasingly sinister meaning for the Lebanese, too.

Take, for example, the hasty construction by the Israeli occupation forces of the so-called early warning station on Mount Baruk in Lebanon. The well-informed Beirut paper L'ORIENT-LE JOUR today throws additional light on this installation. It transpires that it is proposed to monitor any movement -- from the Persian Gulf to the Suez Canal -- on land, sea or in the air from this point with the help of electronic equipment. At the same time it will be possible to listen in to telephone conversations both between countries in this vast area and inside those countries. But the most remarkable thing is that the NATO bloc member-states attach paramount significance to this electronic espionage post in Lebanese territory. Furthermore, as L'ORIENT-LE JOUR says, it is specifically the United States who has nudged Israel into building the station in order to gain special privileges for itself there as a consequence.

Surely all this is graphic demonstration of the Israeli-American conspiracy against Lebanon and other Arab states. And, in this connection it is no accident that Lebanese progressive circles doubt the sincerity of efforts by the U.S. Administration on the need for an immediate withdrawal of Israeli interventionists from all Lebanese territory.

PRAVDA COMMENTS ON LEBANESE-ISRAELI TALKS

LD170856 Moscow TASS in English 0645 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow January 17 TASS -- "With the help of raw pressure and military blackmail, Israel and the United States are trying to impose on Beirut such terms of a separate peace that would in fact consolidate the results of Israel's bandit attack on Lebanon. Such efforts can only be assessed as an encroachment upon the independence and integrity of a sovereign Arab state," Yuriy Glukhov writes in PRAVDA today in a comment on Lebanese-Israeli talks which are currently under way with U.S. participation.

"What catches the eye," he says, "is that the question of the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanese territory has been moved into the background in Washington's 'schedule'. Lebanon has fallen a victim to an unprovoked aggression on the part of Israel and has been occupied by it. It stands to reason that the priority must be an immediate and unconditional pullout of the aggressor's troops. This has also been demanded in its decisions by the United Nations. But Tel Aviv, hoping to continue to occupy Lebanese territory, is in the meantime hypocritically insisting that a 'security zone' should be set up in southern Lebanon."

"Trying to impose its terms at the talks, Israel has time and again resorted to military blackmail," the commentator says. "One of the latest examples of this was the Israeli military's raid into the southern district of the Lebanese capital."

"Military pressure is not the only thing used in a bid to realise expansionist plans in relations to Lebanon," Yuriy Glukhov points out. "Use is being made of every other possible means. Israel and its agents are making every effort to provoke internecine war in mountainous Lebanon, instigating bloody clashes between Druzes and right-wing Christian formations."

"In the meantime the Israeli military are consolidating the Lebanese bridgehead in order to be able to continue acts of aggression against Arab countries," the commentator says. "The south of Lebanon has begun to be 'economically developed' as an Israeli colony. Taking advantage of the occupation regime, Israeli companies and banks are playing the master there. What is taking place is an actual dismemberment of a sovereign Arab country," PRAVDA says.

IRANIAN MINING DELEGATION ON VISIT TO USSR

NC151304 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] A delegation of Iranian experts, headed by Akbar [name indistinct], director of the Iranian mining administration, is in the Soviet Union. The Iranian delegation is holding talks with Tekhnoeksport organization of the Soviet Union during which the result of completed activities in the discovery of the Anarak mines will be studied.

During its stay in the Soviet Union the Iranian delegation will become acquainted with techniques used for the discovery of mines in the various (?eastern) Soviet republics and will visit the Soviet Republics of Georgia, Azerbaijan and Tadhzikstan for this purpose. It will also study the activities of the minerology institutes in Tbilisi, Baku and Dushanbe, and will visit the geological museum in Moscow.

The visit by the Iranian delegation of experts to the Soviet Union, which will end on 29 January, is yet another step toward the expansion of economic and technical cooperation between the two neighboring countries. It has been 7 years now since the Tekhnoeksport organization of the Soviet Union has been assisting the Iranian minerology administration in the discovery of [words indistinct] mines in Anarak in Esfahan Province. During this period of cooperation 12 reports, including relative plans and the results of geological surveys, have been prepared and submitted.

WEEKLY CITES COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT, MINISTER

PM170915 Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 2, 7-13 Jan 83 (Signed to Press 6 Jan 83) pp 12-13

["Reportage" by special correspondent Vadim Polyakovskiy: "In the Motherland of Garcia Marquez"]

[Excerpt] Bogota-Moscow [no date given] -- We had a meeting with [Colombian] Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda. He is 40 years old. Until recently he edited the newspaper EL PAIS, which he owns.

There came a laconic answer to our request to formulate the government's immediate foreign policy aims: to seek to pursue an independent course, to seek possibilities for universalizing the OAS and to promote the peaceful resolution of conflicts in Central America without foreign interference.

His experience as a journalist suggested to the minister that he should expand on things, as the saying goes.

"We will seek to achieve maximum independence. The feeling of dependence must vanish. It is no accident that we have joined the committee in support of Argentina." (We were told that, when talking with a group of journalists at the beginning of October, the minister had cited examples of the recent "cautious policy": The diplomatic obstacles erected by Bogota in the way of Cuba's admission to the UN Security Council and its stand in connection with the crisis over the Malvinas Islands. It differed from the stand taken by practically the whole of Latin America.)

"Since the Malvinas, the OAS system has been in a broken-down state," Lloreda continued. "We will make the necessary efforts to reorganize the OAS by admitting all the states on the continent to it. We intend to seek a machinery for dialogue in Central America and formulas to resolve all problems peacefully. To this end our relations with Nicaragua have already been improved." (The newspaper LA REPUBLICA reported at the end of November that Colombia has granted Nicaragua a big loan to acquire 400 buses in 1983-1984.)

Minister Lloreda did not miss the opportunity to emphasize that Colombia's foreign policy is not directed against any state. He said that the government is making attempts to "take into account the new factors in inter-American relations."

During his tour of a number of countries on the continent in the first few days of December, President Reagan made a 5-hour stopover in Bogota. Unambiguous ciriticism of U.S. policy in Central America was heard there, particularly of the attempts to "isolate" Cuba and Nicaragua. The bloody regimes in the region which enjoy Washington's support were sharply condemned. Displeasure was also voiced at U.S. policy in the economic and financial spheres.

But let us return to the meeting with Lloreda.

"I have visited your country in the past, although not for long. I know that the Soviet people want peace, for they suffered tremendous casualties in the last war. People should be reminded of this over and over again, otherwise some people would like to consign this fact to oblivion," the minister declared.

Our delegation was also received by President Belisario Betancourt of Colombia. During the election campaign he proclaimed his government's main aims in the event of his being elected to the post of head of state. These aims were "economic revival," "pacification of the country," and "liberation from excessive dependence" (on one state).

I repeat, the aims were formulated and announced in advance. But there were surprises, too. Thus, in his first speech as president, Betancourt announced Colombia's intention to join the Nonaligned Movement. In addition, he invited all the continent's heads of state to come to the Colombian city of Cartagena at the beginning of 1983 to discuss inter-American relations. The stress on the world "all" attracted universal attention.

"Also in my speech on taking up the post I proclaimed that concern for peace will be our chief task -- internal and international peace. We want to show everyone our desire for a peace under which we will not be anyone's satellite," President Betancourt said on receiving the delegation of the Soviet Committee for the Defense of Peace in the white marble Casa de Narino palace. "Our intention to join the Nonaligned Movement should be viewed in precisely this context."

Belisario Betancourt reminded us that he had worked for many years as a journalist and taught sociology and political economy in the university.

"I am convinced that ideas must not be included on a list of commodities whose import is banned and have high duties levied on them. They will penetrate all the same," he declared decisively. "I do not want pressure to be put on political convictions in Colombia. I advocate political pragmatism...."

A great deal is said about political pragmatism in Betancourt's latest book "Yes, It Is Possible." It contains these words: "On acceding to power I will not carry out a revolution, but neither will I permit counterrevolution."

Naturally, the president also touched on relations with our country:

"My government wants to have excellent relations with the Soviet Union. We intend to develop them in the sphere of culture and education, as well as in the economic sphere. Colombia will devote great attention to building up hydroelectric capacities, and we have heard a lot about your successes in this sphere."

Mutual Interest

Whatever aspect of Soviet-Colombian relations of late you take -- cultural exchange, scientific and technical cooperation, trade and economic ties -- everywhere there is a desire for further progress. Colombian graduates of Soviet VUZes told us about this. Their association, which has approximately 1,400 members, is headed by Hugo Sierra, a professor in the engineering department of Colombia's Autonomous University. Both he and Lola Saavedra, who defended her dissertation at Kiev's State University -- we made friends with them -- express themselves superbly in Russian.

Hernan Villamarin, rector of Colombia's Autonomous University, spoke to us about the constantly expanding scientific ties with the Moscow State University, the Peoples' Friendship University and the USSR Academy of Sciences Latin America Institute.

"Interest in Soviet science and culture is growing daily. The Moscow Chamber Orchestra and ballet soloists from Novosibirsk, Kiev and Tallinn have recently made successful tours," the rector continued. "As far as I know, hundreds of people are studying in Russian language courses at the Colombian-Soviet Friendship Institute."

Trade and economic ties are developing steadily, although more slowly than we would like. While buying coffee, bananas, unrefined sugar and so forth from Colombia, the Soviet Union supplies it chiefly with machinery -- motor vehicles (I was told at the USSR trade mission in Bogota that approximately 6,000 vehicles with the VAZ [Volta motor vehicle plant] trademark, chiefly vans, are running on Colombian roads; and recently an agreement was signed to obtain 125 trolleys,) electrical measuring instruments and so forth.

New opportunities are opening up in connection with the construction of the (Urra-1) and (Urra-2) hydroengineering complex.

Guillermo Teijero, head of a Colombian intermediary firm which has been engaged in organizing trade and economic ties for many years, is optimistic. He has made a thorough study of everything to do with (Urra-1) and (Urra-2).

"Colombia is surrounded by water -- two oceans and two huge rivers (the Amazon and the Orinoco) -- but our hydroelectric power stations can be counted on the fingers of one hand," he began the conversation. "In 1977 it was decided to build a 340-megawatt hydroelectric power station -- (Urra-1) -- in the northwest of the country at Angostura de (Urra), and a 710-megawatt station -- (Urra-2) -- at the river's confluence with the Esmeralda. The total initial capacity will amount to one-fourth of the energy now being generated in Colombia. An accord has been reached that Colombia will construct the hydroengineering complex, while the Soviet Union, which won the tender, will design, manufacture and deliver the hydroelectric equipment. The official contract signing ceremony -- for the biggest contract in Colombian history -- took place in Bogota in August 1982."

"What, in short, is its essence?"

"The USSR will supply eight turbines and provide technical assistance in installing them. In terms of cost this is approximately $310 million -- roughly 10-12 percent of the total cost. Payment will be made in commodities which we have traditionally exported, over a period of 10 years, starting from the date of commissioning of each of the turbine."

Hernan Correa, general director of Colombia's Atlantic Coast energy corporation, recently declared that the state firm which he heads has already embarked on practical measures to realize the contract.

JOURNAL INTERVIEWS SALVADORAN REBEL LEADER

LD151115 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0755 GMT 15 Jan 83

[Text] Moscow, 15 Jan (TASS) -- "Were it not for abundant U.S. aid, the antipopular regime in El Salvador would have been overthrown long ago," declared Anna-Maria, one of the leaders of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN], in an interview with a SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA correspondent. She and her comrades took part in establishing the armed forces of the FMLN and in planning military operations against the forces of the fascist regime. Her enemies have set a high price on her head but the ordinary people of El Salvador can be relied upon to protect their heroine.

Speaking of the wide-scale offensive begun by the FMLN armed forces on 10 October 1982, Anna-Maria said:

"This operation was carefully prepared, taking into account all factors, internal and external. The offensive began on four fronts: The Modesta Ramirez central front, the Feliciano Ama western front, The Francisco Sanchez eastern front and the Anastasio Aquina front."

"Probably the fiercest battles were on the central and eastern fronts," continued Anna-Maria, "Our troops displayed mass heroism everywhere and defeated the enemy, who was armed to the teeth. From 10-30 October alone, the FMLN armed forces killed over 500 enemy soldiers and captured many prisoners, weapons and over 78,000 cartridges. Twenty settlements in the northern part of the country near the Honduras frontier came completely under our control."

Anna-Maria stressed that her greatest dream is to liberate the country from the corrupt regime and from U.S. imperialism. "I would like all the Salvadoran workers and peasants, all the working people, to be happy, to have work and bread; We shall achieve this," she said in conclusion.

POLITBURO BRIEFINGS, DISCUSSIONS REPORTED

LD141434 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 14 Jan 83

[From the Vremya newscast]

[Text] At its latest session the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee was briefed on the talks with Raul Castro Ruz -- member of the Politburo, second secretary of the Central Committee of the Cuban Communist Party, first deputy chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers, and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Republic of Cuba. These talks were held during his stay in Moscow at the head of the party and state delegation for the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR.

The Politburo was briefed on the talks with Hans-Jochen Vogel, member of the Presidium of the FRG Social Democratic Party and that Party's candidate for the post of FRG chancellor.

At the session, there was an exchange of views about the need to better organize the work of enterprises, organizations and establishments providing services for the population. It was noted that a large number of enterprises in the services sector are open when workers are involved in production. As a result, many people cannot make necessary purchases and take advantage of various types of services. This causes justifiable complaints from the workers, affects the state of labor discipline and productivity, and unltimately does great harm to society.

The Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee took note of the fact that the USSR Council of Ministers will in the near future study practical measures to bring about proper order in this sphere.

In implementation of the Food Program, the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee discussed specific measures to further raise the technical level and quality of equipment for the food sectors of industry and to improve the production of food equipment. The appropriate ministries and departments will take measures to quicken the technical reequipping of the food, meat and diary, fruit and vegetable, fishing and compound feed industries and enterprises involved in trade and public catering.

The session studied a number of questions connected with the participation of Soviet delegations at the forthcoming sessions of UN commissions and committees.

REPORTAGE ON FUNERAL OF BELORUSSIA'S KISELEV

Kapitonov Attends

LD141238 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Text] A report from Minsk: Today the working people of Belorussia saw Tikhon Yakovlevich Kiselev, eminent figure of the Communist Party and Soviet state, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee, off on his last journey.

The coffin containing the dead man's body was set up in the hall of the Belorussian Supreme Soviet in the government house. Comrade Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Sklunkov, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee; members of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau; delegations from union republics; and members of the government commission to organize the funeral stood by the coffin to pay their last farewells.

Leaders of the republic carried the coffin with the body of Tikhon Yakovlevich Kiselev to Lenin Square and placed it on a pedestal. A funeral meeting commenced. It was opened by Comrade Polyakov, chairman of the Belorussian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

At the funeral meeting speeches were made by Comrade Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Slyunkov, first secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee; Comrade Demchenko, worker at the Minsk tractor works and Hero of Socialist Labor; Comrade Bedulo, chairman of the Sovetskaya Belorussia collective farm in Brest Oblast and Hero of Socialist Labor; and Comrade Gergusov, first secretary of the Dobrush Raykom, Gomel Oblast.

The funeral meeting was declared closed. The leaders of the republic placed the coffin on a gun-carriage and the funeral cortege began. It was seen off by thousands of Minsk inhabitants who had gathered on the square and along the city's central thoroughfare, Leninskiy Prospekt.

At the cemetery a word of farewell was pronounced by Comrade Brovikov, second secretary of the Belorussian Communist Party Central Committee. To the sounds of an artillery salute, the coffin of Tikhon Yakovlevich Kiselev was lowered into the grave. A funeral march was played. It was followed by the anthems of the Soviet Union and the Belorussian SSR.

By the side of the grave, covered with wreaths and flowers, a detachment of servicemen made a solemn march-past. They were paying their last respects to Tikhon Yakovlevich Kiselev, a true son of the party and the people.

Kapitonov Speech

LD150025 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Excerpts] The working people of Belorussia today say off on his last journey Tikhon Yakovlevich Kiselev, eminent figure of the Communist Party and Soviet state, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Communist Party of Belorussia Central Committee.

A speech was delivered by Comrade Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. He said: The death of Tikhon Yakovlevich Kiselev has aroused deep sorrow in our hearts. We have lost a true son of the party, a prominent party and state leader, a man of great spirit and intellect. The CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the USSR Council of Ministers express deep condolences to the Communist Party of Belorussia Central Committee, to the Supreme Soviet and Council of Ministers, to the Communists and all the working people of the republic on the occasion of the death of Tikhon Yakovlevich Kiselev.

This heavy loss is shared with us by the Communists and working people of our multiracial country. The organizational talent of Tikhon Yakovlevich Tikhonov [as heard] was fully unfolded in his work as a leader of the Brest Obkom, in the Council of Ministers of the republic and in the post of first secretary of the Communist Party of Belorussia Central Committee.

At the present time, the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry and intelligentsia of the republic, under the leadership of the Communist Party of Belorussia, is working selflessly to fulfill the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the tasks of the 11th 5-Year Plan. To inspire and organize people, awaken in them their creative strengths and energies, and steer cadres toward concrete action -- this was the meaning of the life of Tikhon Yakovlevich right up to his last days.

Further Kapitonov Remarks

LD142353 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 14 Jan 83

[Address by I. Kapitonov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at 14 January funeral ceremony for Tikhon Kiselev at Lenin Square in Minsk -- read by announcer; video shows Kapitonov speaking]

[Text] The entire life-path and remarkable labor activity of Tikhon Yakolevich Kiselev were a clear example of selfless service to the cause of the party and of the socialist motherland. Tikhon Yakovlevich Kiselev devoted much effort and made a considerable contribution to the development of the national economy and science and culture of Belorussia and to the communist upbringing of the working people.

By the efforts of the labor-loving Belorussian people and the fraternal help of all peoples of the Soviet Union, new branches of the economy have been created in the republic, agriculture has risen, towns and villages have been transformed unrecognizably. For Communists and nonparty members Tikhon Yakovlevich was an example of high ideological conviction and principle, had work and personal modesty. By his selfless loyalty to the cause of communism, and his sensitive and attentive attitude to people, he earned general respect and prestige in our party. His services to the party and country were marked by many state awards. The shining memory of Tikhon Yakovlevich Kiselev, who gave his entire life to serving the Communist Party, and the socialist motherland, will be forever preserved in our hearts.

VALENTIN FALIN REPORTEDLY TO TRANSFER TO IZVESTIYA

LD141522 Hamburg DPA in German 1850 GMT 13 Jan 83

[Excerpt] Moscow, 14 Jan (DPA) -- The first deputy head of the Central Committee Department of International Affairs and former Soviet ambassador to Bonn, Valentin Falin, is moving to the editorial department of the government newspaper IZVESTIYA, according to usually well-informed sources. It was being said in Moscow journalists' circles on 13 January that Falin will become one of the newspaper's political commentators. The change was not a demotion, it was said. Apparently, it is not being ruled out that it will only be an interim post for Falin.

LEADERS ATTEND ARTISTS CONGRESS IN MOSCOW

LD170944 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 17 Jan 83

[Text] The sixth congress of artist of the USSR opened in Moscow today. Over 850 delegates have gathered in the Great Kremlin Palace. They include painters, graphic artists, sculptors, masters of applied art, stage designers and art critics. Those present welcomed with applause Comrades Aliyev, Grishin, Demichev, Solomentsev, Zimyanin and Kapitonov. An honorary presidium was elected including the Politburo of the Leninist Central Committee of the CPSU.

COMPARISON OF SUPREME SOVIET SESSION REPORT

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 13 January in its Second Edition publishes on pages 1 and 2 a TASS report under the heading "USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Session." The PRAVDA report has been compared with the Moscow Domestic Service Russian version published in the 13 January Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, pages R 1 to R 3, revealing the following variations:

Page R 1, paragraph 1, line 5, PRAVDA adds the following after "...implementation in 1983."" The report delivered by V.V. Kuznetsov noted that in 1982 the USSR Supreme Soviet, its Presidium and the chambers' standing committees had examined a wide range of questions connected with the practical implementation of our party's political course and with ensuring the leadership of state, economic and sociocultural building. In the work of the supreme organ of power great attention was paid to preparing for and celebrating the 60th anniversary of the USSR's formation, to mobilizing the working people for the fulfillment of the Food Program, to raising production efficiency and to stepping up control.

The Presidium approved the plan of the main measures outlined for implementation by the USSR Supreme Soviet in 1983. It was drawn up on the basis of the provisions of the 26th party congress, the CPSU Central Committee May and November (1982) plenums and the Law on the Plan for Economic and Social Development for 1983. The main avenues in the USSR Supreme Soviet's work will be the pursuit of the party's economic and social policy, the further development of the democratic foundations of the soviets' activity and the enhancement of their role in economic and sociocultural building, the stepping up of the Supreme Soviet's monitoring of the fulfillment of the plans, laws and decisions adopted and of the work of the organs under its jurisdiction, the consolidation of the state discipline and the galvanization of the foreign policy activity of the USSR Supreme Soviet and its organs.

Following a report...(rewording, supplying additional passage, picking up paragraph 2, line 2)

Page R 1, following paragraph 2, PRAVDA adds:

S.N. Imashev, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and Presidium Member N.G. Basov described the traditional international ties among the union and autonomous republics, oblasts, cities, rayons and labor collectives -- ties which have been further developed -- and the expanded and enriched mutual exchange of leading production experience and achievements in the sphere of ideological education and culture.

Page R 2, paragraph 2, line 9, PRAVDA reads: ...to idealize outdated morals and customs, to develop... (supplying "morals and")

Page R 2, following paragraph 5, PRAVDA adds:

The USSR Procuracy, in conjunction with the USSR MVD, has been instructed to take effective steps for the closer cooperation of Procuracy and internal affairs organs in combating crime, drunkenness and alcoholism, manifestations of parasitism and other law violations. The task has been set of enhancing the effectiveness of preventive work and improving the coordination of the activity of Procuracy, internal affairs and justice organs and the courts in preventing law violations.

The union and autonomous republic supreme soviet presidiums and the local soviets have been recommended to examine regularly questions connected with further consolidating socialist legality and intensifying the preservation of law and order; to take steps to improve the propaganda of Soviet laws and the population's legal education; to involve the people's deputies, public organizations and labor collectives in the implementation of preventive measures in the struggle against law violations.

BAGIROV SPEECH AT AZERBAIJAN CP PLENUM

WA141430 Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 10 Dec 82 pp 1-3

[Speech: "Combat Tasks of the Republic's Party Organization: Report by First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan, Comrade K.M. Bagirov at a Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan on 9 December 1982"]

[Text] Comrades!

On 12 November 1982 there was a special Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, that was convoked as a result of the death of that great political and state figure of modern times, that faithful continuer of the great Leninist cause, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. The Plenum of the Central Committee unanimously elected as General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov, a very close companion of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's and a prominent figure in the Communist Party and the Soviet state.

The decisions of the special Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee received the unanimous approval of the Azerbaijani party organization and all the workers in our republic. Like the rest of the Soviet citizens, the Communist Party members and the nation of Azerbaijan closed their ranks even more tightly and became even more strongly consolidated around the Communist Party and its Leninist Central Committee, and the Politburo of the Central Committee. That is how it has always been -- both during the hour of triumph and during the hour of difficult tests, the party and the people are united. And so, once again, the monolithic unity of multinational Soviet society, a unity that manifested itself during the mournful days of farewell to Leonid Ilich, became a powerful demonstration of the political maturity, the ideological steadfastness of the workers of our country, and of their tremendous love for and trust in the party, their unshakable devotion to the Leninist cause.

The regular Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, which was held on 22 November, discussed and approved basically the draft versions of the State Plan for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR and the USSR State Budget for 1983, which were then considered and approved by the 7th Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, 10th Convocation. The Plenum discussed and resolved organizational questions and approved the decree of the CPSU Central Committee, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the USSR Council of Ministers, entitled "Perpetuating the Memory of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev."

A long and very meaningful speech was given at the Plenum by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade Yu.V. Andropov. In his statement he emphasized the succession of the party's domestic and foreign policy; completely illumined the creative activity of the party and the nation in fulfilling the historic decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress; revealed from the point of view of firm party principles the shortcomings and omissions that exist, and defined the ways and means to overcome them; and described the plan for 1983, which is the pivotal year of the 11th Five-Year Plan.

The Plenum completely and entirely approved the practical activities of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee in implementing the course in domestic and foreign policy that was developed by the 26th CPSU Congress, and in carrying out the tasks of communist construction. The Plenum approved the principles and conclusions that were set forth in the speech of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, and obliged all the party organizations to make them the basis of their activities.

The November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee has become a new and important landmark in the life of the Communist Party and of the country. The decisions of the Plenum of the Central Committee and the 7th Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet have defined the specific program for the actions to be performed by all the Communist Party

members and all the workers, and mobilize them for new and major achievements. They completely and entirely conform to the interests of the Soviet nation and open up broad prospects for the further growth of the economy and for raising the standard of living of the masses. Concern for people is the very basis of our party's economic policy. And that was demonstrated with new force by the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. It expressed the party's firm resolve to continue marching forward along Lenin's course, to carry out the general line that was developed by it in the area of domestic and foreign policy, and the unshakable striving by the CPSU Central Committee and the Politburo of the Central Committee to continue to advance confidently ahead of the Soviet nation, leading it to new heights of communist creation.

At the Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee it was emphasized that, since the beginning of the current five-year plan, much has been done. The upsurge of many branches of the national economy has been assured; and a number of very important socioeconomic problems have been resolved. The country's achievements during the first two years of the five-year plan make it possible at this time to pose new and more extensive tasks in the further development of all spheres of material production, and the raising of the standard of living of the Soviet nation. The 1983 plan provides for the acceleration of the rates of development in the economy and to increase the absolute amounts of increase in the national income, the output of industry and agriculture, and the volume of retail commodity turnover. It is planned to continue the work involved in increasing the effectiveness of the national economy.

Special attention is being devoted to the carrying out of a series of measures to fulfill the country's Food Program. The plan adheres to the party line aimed at raising the standard of living of the workers. It is planned to assure the outstripping growth of branches in Group B [consumer goods], and to increase the output of consumer goods. Major material and financial resources are being allocated for the further development of the agroindustrial complex, and the population's real income will continue to grow. The volume of housing construction also conforms to the assignments of the five-year plan.

The 1983 plan and budget are a well-extended, creative program that provides for the further mighty upsurge of the entire national-economic complex in the country, and the dynamic development of the economy and culture of every Soviet republic, including Azerbaijan SSR. They completely conform to the economic strategy of the CPSU and its Leninist national policy. Thus, the third year of the 11th Five-Year Plan is supposed to become an important stage in the carrying out of the stupendous tasks that were advanced by the 26th CPSU Congress.

The documents of the Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speech provide a profound analysis of the international situation. The Plenum redemonstrated with all possible force the unshakable adherence of the Communist Party and the Soviet state to the Leninist principles of foreign policy, and to the Peace Program that was developed by our party's 25th and 26th congresses. It was stated from the rostrum of the Plenum that the guaranteeing of lasting peace, the protection of the right of peoples to their independence, security, and social progress is the invariable goal of our foreign policy. In the struggle to achieve these goals, the leadership of the party and the state will operate in a well-principled, consistent, and a carefully weighed manner.

The Communist Party members and the workers of Azerbaijan, like all the rest of the Soviet citizens, perceived with a deep sense of satisfaction the decisions of the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. They ardently, with all their heart, support the domestic and foreign policy of the Leninist party, and express their unshakable readiness, with even greater energy and persistence, to fight for the fulfillment of the plans for communist construction.

The republic's party organization completely and entirely approves the decisions of the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and accepts them for unswerving guidance and execution.

Comrades! At today's plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan (CPA) we shall be discussing the results of the November 1982 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and shall define the tasks of our republic's party organization in implementing its decisions and the principles and conclusions stated in Comrade Yu.V. Andropov's speech, and in organizing the fulfillment of the 1983 plans.

At the present time a large amount of work has been extended throughout the republic to study and explain the materials of the Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet. It is necessary for every labor collective, every party organization, to define precisely its tasks in carrying out the party's decisions, to establish specific goals for the third year of the five-year plan, and to mobilize all its efforts and means for the successful completion of the assignments of the current year and the fulfillment and overfulfillment of the plan for the economic and social development in 1983.

The republic's tasks for 1983 are based on a solid foundation of our achievements during the 9th and 10th Five-Year Plans and the first two years of the 11th Five-Year Plan, and the experience in economic-organizing activity that was accumulated during that period. One can note with a deep sense of satisfaction that the celebration year of 1982, the year of the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR, has been marked by the further steady upsurge of all branches of our republic's national economy, and by major successes in the fulfillment of the plans and the high socialist pledges with regard to industrial and agricultural production.

Industrial workers fulfilled ahead of schedule -- on 25 November -- the assignments of the first 11 months for the sale of output and the production of many very important types of output. The growth rate for the volume of industrial production came to 5.6 percent, as compared with the refined plan of 4.1 percent. Labor productivity increased by 4.5 percent, as compared with an annual assignment of 4.2 percent. The increase in this indicator resulted in an 80-percent increase in industrial output. There was an improvement in the quality of the output being produced, with the percentage of articles of increased category of quality constituting 15.2 in the overall volume of industrial production, as compared with the planned 14.5 percent. The assignments for profits, for the reduction of production costs, and for other technical-economic indicators were surpassed. The plans for shipments of national-economic freight by all types of transportation were overfulfilled.

The agricultural workers, responding by concrete deeds to the decisions of the May 1983 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and striving during the current year to make a considerable contribution to the realization of the Food Program, overcame the tremendous difficulties that were caused by the natural calamities and fulfilled ahead of schedule the plans and socialist pledges for procurements of grain, cotton, grapes, vegetables, fruits, melon crops, tea leaves, and potatoes. This labor victory achieved by the workers of Azerbaijan received a high evaluation in the warm message of greetings from the CPSU Central Committee.

During the current year the state bought more than 350,000 tons of grain, 1.72 million tons of grapes, 834,000 tons of cotton, 695,000 tons of vegetables, 208,000 tons of fruits, 26,700 tons of tea, 56,000 tons of potatoes, and more than 36,000 tons of melon crops. The procurement of fruits, potatoes, and vegetables is continuing. The volume of turnover of tobacco to the state is expected to be high -- no less than 58,000 tons. The plans and socialist pledges for the production and procurement of products of animal husbandry are being fulfilled successfully. The annual plans for purchases of milk, eggs, and wool have already been fulfilled. The amount of livestock and poultry procured will be greater than last year's amount.

By the end of the year construction workers will have activated new production capacities and projects in the electrical-engineering industry, machine-building, the petroleum and gas extracting and food industries, agriculture, and other branches. The program of social development and the improvement of the workers' standard of living is being implemented successfully.

An analysis of the fulfillment of the plans for the republic's economic and social development after the first 11 months attests to the fact that the 1982 assignments for all basic indicators of the national economy will be considerably overfulfilled. Judged on the basis of the results of the first two years in the 11th Five-Year Plan, the republic's national income will increase by 14.4 percent, as compared with the assignment of 8 percent; the increase in the volume of industrial production will be approximately 13 percent, as compared with the planned 11; labor productivity will increase by 10.6 percent, with an assignment of 8.7 for the five-year plan.

The republic's agriculture is developing considerably in excess of the control figures. The average annual growth rate for the gross output of the agrarian sector of the economy will be 30.3 percent, as compared with the assigned 11.8. Labor productivity in agriculture will increase by 27.8 percent, with an assignment of 10 percent.

In 1981-1982 more than 3.7 billion rubles of state capital investments were channeled into the economic and social development of the republic, including approximately 1.7 billion rubles for construction and installation operations, or investments at the level of the assignments of the five-year plan.

In conformity with the program for the social development, a series of measures have been carried out for achieving a further rise in the material and cultural standard of living of the workers. The usable national income during the first two years of the 11th Five-Year Plan will increase by 11.4 percent, as compared with the assignment of 10 percent. There will be an increase in the average monthly wages paid to workers and employees and in the payment of the labor performed by the kolkhoz members. The real income per capita of population, based on the results of the first two years of the five-year plan, will increase by 8.5 percent, as compared with the assignment of 6 percent. The payments and benefits received by the republic's population from social consumption funds will increase during that period by 10 percent and will exceed 2 billion rubles. Since the beginning of the five-year plan, more than 300,000 persons have received new, well-appointed apartments or have improved their housing conditions. A large number of schools, children's institutions, hospitals, and other structures intended for social, cultural, and everyday purposes were built and activated.

Evaluating the results of 1982 and, as a whole, the two years that have elapsed, and comparing them with the assignments of the five-year plan, we can state with a sense of satisfaction that the goals that have been achieved completely correspond to the principles enunciated by the 26th CPSU Congress and the 30th CPA Congress and to the party's course, which is aimed at the steady rise in the workers' standard of living.

The republic's achievements were the result of the selfless creative labor of the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry, and the intellectual class, and the large amount of purposeful organizing and political work by the party, Soviet, and economic agencies, and the trade-union and Komsomol organizations, and the fruitful efforts of all the labor collectives. Our successes became possible only thanks to the tremendous amount of aid, the daily attention, and the fatherly concern of our party's Central Committee and the Politburo of the Central Committee, and the Soviet government for Azerbaijan.

An important role in the republic's achievements was played by the broad development of socialist competition, the activation of the available reserves in all branches of economic construction, and the dissemination of advanced experience. On a wave of a massive patriotic movement under the motto "Let's give 60 shock weeks to the

60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR," there arose a large number of valuable initiatives and undertakings by advance collectives and innovators of production, who, by the preterm fulfillment of the plans and pledges, are meritoriously greeting the glorious celebration of the multinational Soviet state.

Comrades, please allow me, in the name of the CPA Central Committee, to express our heartfelt gratitude to the working class, the kolkhoz peasantry, the intellectual class, and to all the workers for their highly productive, selfless labor, for the high patriotism that they have demonstrated, for their faithfulness to the remarkable labor traditions of our republic.

Comrades! The draft version of the plan for the economic and social development of Azerbaijan SSR in 1983 provides for the further dynamic and balanced development of the national economy, an increase in the effectiveness of socialized production, and the attainment of high final national-economic results, which are aimed at the complete satisfaction of the workers' material and spiritual needs.

The scope, rates, and proportions of the development of the national economy of Azerbaijan SSR in 1983 were determined with a consideration of the effective assimilation of the scientific-technical and production potential and the labor resources of the republic, the more complete use of the intensive factors of economic development, the existing reserves, the economizing of all types of resources, and the further improvement of the qualitative indicators.

For next year it is planned to increase the national income by 3.2 percent, and for the first three years of the five-year plan, by 18 percent. The growth rate of industrial production is planned at 4.5 percent, and since the beginning of the five-year plan, 17.5 percent. Labor productivity in industry will be increased in 1983 by 3.6 percent, and for the first three years, by 14 percent. All these indicators exceed the assignments for the five-year plan. During the next year it is planned to increase the gross output of agriculture, as compared with the average annual production during the 10th Five-Year Plan, by 15.1 percent. The overall volume of capital investments will rise by 9.1 percent and will be 2.2 billion rubles. There will be an increase in retail commodity turnover, the volume of sale of everyday services, and the per-capita real income.

The draft versions for the plan for the republic's social and economic development in 1983 take into consideration the comments and recommendations that were expressed at the Bureau of the CPA Central Committee. Those documents as a whole conform to the principles enunciated at the 26th CPSU Congress and the 30th CPA Congress, and they can be approved and recommended for consideration by the session of the AzSSR Supreme Soviet.

The new and responsible tasks facing our republic require the even greater mobilization of the efforts of the part, Soviet, and economic agencies, the trade-union and Komsomol organizations, and all the labor collectives. Their successful implementation dictates the need for the most rapid elimination of the shortcomings and omissions that exist in our work, and the resolution of a number of important problems. They were mentioned in detail in the reports and statements by Comrade Geydar Aliyevich Aliyev at the previous plenums of the Central Committee, especially at the plenum that was held in October 1982. Without repeating what was stated, I would like today, in the light of the demands of the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, to concentrate the attention of the republic's party organization on only a few of the key questions.

The November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, as you know, comrades, devoted special attention to problems of intensifying the industrial production, and pointed out the substantial shortcomings and miscalculations and the large amounts of unused reserves. In conformity with the principles advanced by the Plenum, we must collectively determine the steps for the further development of our republic's industry.

Its successes during the 1970's and 1980's have been great and are widely known. But, as the party teaches us, one cannot rest on one's laurels, and we do not intend to do so.

As was previously stated, the republic, judged on the basis of the results of the first two years of the five-year plan, will overfulfill the plan for rates of growth of the volume of industrial production. At the same time, one observes an inability to cope with the established assignments at Minneftekhimprom Sumgait Synthetic Rubber Plant (Comrade N.M. Aliyev); Minlegprom (Comrade S.M. Ibragimov); Minmestprom; the Sumgait Synthetic Rubber Plant (Comrade Z.M. Guseynov); the Azerbaijan Pipe-Rolling Plant (Comrade M.F. Kerimov); a number of other enterprises; and as a whole the industry in the cities of Baku, Sumgait, Yevlakh, and Sheki. The CPA Central Committee considers the overcoming of this lag to be one of the chief tasks in 1983.

At the plenum of the CPA Central Committee that was held in October 1982, a question that was posed acutely was the question of reducing the number of enterprises that do not fulfill their plans. That problem, unfortunately, remains a vitally acute one. Since the beginning of the year 26 associations and enterprises, or 5.2 percent of their total number, failed to cope with the assignment for sale of output. More than 40 percent of the enterprises are not fulfilling the plans for shipments on the basis of their contractual pledges. It is necessary for us to set down and to carry out steps to assure the unconditional fulfillment next year of the plans by absolutely all the collectives.

Far from complete use is being made of the capability afforded by the tremendous industrial potential that has been created in the republic. Since the beginning of the five-year plan, there has been a reduction in the yield on capital in the fuel, chemical and petrochemical, and light industry. For industry as a whole the yield on capital increased by 0.2 percent, as compared with the 1.8 percent during the corresponding period in the 10th Five-Year Plan.

The low yield on fixed assets is primarily the result of the poor work of assimilating the newly activated capacities and the failure to put an effective load upon the existing ones. Because of serious shortcomings in the organization of production; operations to modernize the technological equipment and provide it with qualified personnel; and interruptions in the material-technical support, the capacities at a number of enterprises in the building-materials industry, instrument-building, and the electrical-engineering, chemical and petrochemical, and knitting industry are being used at the level of only 60-90 percent. The situation is especially unfavorable with the use of the capacities at the Azrezinotekhnia Association (Comrade V.A. Nasirov); the Azerelektroterm Association (Comrade Ye.G. Protokovets); at the Sal'yany Plastics Processing Plant (Comrade V.G. Kuliyev); the Ali-Bayramly Household Appliances Plant (Comrade S.S. Rasulov); the Sumgait Glass Plant (Comrade M.M. Pashayev); the Textile Combine imeni V.I. Lenin (Comrade I.M. Isayev); the Sumgait Bulky Spinning Factory (Comrade D.M. Azizov); and others. I think that the comrades will understand why their names were mentioned and will make the proper conclusions.

A number of production entities, judged on the basis of their technical level, are lagging considerably behind similar enterprises throughout the country. For example, at many enterprises in petrochemistry, machine-building for light and food industry, Minpromstroymaterialy, and Minlegprom, AzSSR, approximately half the production entities are obsolete and one-third of them are completely worn out and in need of replacement. However, the draft version of the plan for next year does not provide for any exhaustive measures to increase the effectiveness of the use of the capacities, or to expand the work involved in modernizing and remodeling the production entities. All this must be taken into consideration in our further practical work.

As everyone knows, the determining indicator for judging the effectiveness of the economy is labor productivity. Thanks to the steps taken by the republic's party

organization, during recent years there has been regular overfulfillment of the assignments for labor productivity and high rates of growth in labor productivity have been steadily achieved.

At the same time, in certain branches, cities, and rayons, labor productivity is growing at low rates or is not growing at all. Industries which, judged on the basis of the results of the first two years of the five-year plan, have been lagging behind the assignments of the five-year plan for labor productivity are nonferrous metallurgy, the petroleum-refining, local industry, and others. But Minlegprom, Minkhlopkoprom, Minmyasomolprom, Glavazmeliovodstroy, the Azerrybprom Association, the Azerbaijan Pipe-Rolling Plant, and the industry as a whole in the cities of Ali-Bayramly and Yevlakh have had a reduction in labor productivity, as compared with last year. The growth rates for labor productivity are low in a number of rayons of Baku. Apparently the party's Baku City Committee and rayon committees should considerably intensify their attention to the entire series of questions that are linked with the increase in labor productivity. They must be under the unceasing supervision of all the party, Soviet, trade-union, and economic agencies. Obviously, a large amount of benefit would result from the planning of the indicators of the growth of labor productivity not only by branches and enterprises, but also by industrial cities and rayons.

One of the basic factors influencing the growth of labor productivity is the efficient use of work time. For the republic's industry as a whole, since the beginning of the five-year plan the losses of work time have constituted hundreds of thousands of man-days. The administrators of the corresponding branches and enterprises, and the party and trade-union committees must engage more thoroughly in establishing proper procedures in this matter, and must constantly reinforce the organizational spirit and discipline at every work site.

The November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee especially emphasized the importance of accelerating the scientific-technical progress, of assuring the broad and rapid introduction into production of the achievements of science, technology, and advanced experience.

It must be admitted that in this regard, the republic's industry has substantial areas where insufficient work has been done. But the most important thing is that the work being carried out has a low rate of results. Many ministries and departments regularly fail to fulfill the plans for the introduction of new technology and advanced technological systems. A considerable number of the planned measures are not distinguished by any innovation, and fail to exert a substantial influence upon increasing the effectiveness of production.

Serious claims as a result of the situation that has been created should be filed against AzSSR Gosplan (Comrade F.D. Rustambekova); AzSSR Academy of Sciences (Comrade G.B. Abdullayev); and the branch scientific-research and planning-and-designing organizations. They have been called upon in a more purposeful manner to locate and to eliminate any difficulties on the path of scientific-technical progress, and to take all steps to reinforce the ties between science and production. In this regard we expect more effective work and a greater return from our republic's scientists.

In the series of steps for increasing the effectiveness of production an important place belongs to the quality of the output being produced. During recent years a systems approach has been taken and a purposeful nature has been given to this work in our republic, and, judged according to the percentage of articles with the Seal of Quality, it is at the level of the nationwide indicator.

But we cannot be satisfied with a situation in which, from 1980 to the present time, the percentage of articles with the Seal of Quality has increased by only 2.5 percent. Therefore one cannot agree with the fact that, for 1983, provision has been made for an insignificant increase in the volume of production of output with the Seal of Quality. Gosplan should carefully reconsider our real capabilities and establish more

intensive assignments for the ministries, departments, and enterprises in improving the quality of output.

The November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee demanded the intensification of economy measures, the intensification of the struggle for the economical use of the material and fuel-and-energy resources.

The republic has a large number of examples of a truly economical attitude toward the people's wealth, but that experience, unfortunately, has not been properly disseminated. A number of ministries, departments, and enterprises consistently overexpend their fuel-and-energy resources, metal, cement, and other types of raw and other materials. Moreover, the number of such enterprises has increased, as compared with last year.

Approximately 30 percent of the enterprises failed to cope with the assignments for the reduction of the expenditure of electrical energy, and 20 percent of the enterprises, for thermal energy. A considerable overexpenditure of the fuel-and-energy resources was incurred -- and this should be no surprise -- by Azglavenergo itself (Comrade M.M. Imanov); the Kaspmorneftegazprom Association; the Azerbaijan Pipe-Rolling Plant; enterprises in nonferrous metallurgy; etc. Metal is being used in excess of the established norms at the Bakelektrobytpribor associations (Comrade R.A. Agayev); at the Machine-Building Plants imeni Petrov (Comrade Ya.B. Shukyurov), imeni Kirov (Comrade B.I. Penbek); etc. There has been a considerable overexpenditure of cement and lumber at organizations of Minpromstroy, Minsel'stroy, Glavbakstroy, and others.

The administrators of the ministries, departments, and enterprises, and of construction organizations must intensify their work of observing economy measures and thrift, and the established norms for the expenditure of raw and other materials, and the fuel-and-energy resources, and must wage a decisive struggle against poor business practices and squandering.

In the light of the decisions of the November Plenum, in this matter there has been an incalculable increase in the role and responsibility of the party's oblast, city, and rayon committees and the agencies of the people's control. The commissions for control over the efficient use of the fuel-and-energy resources, which commissions were recently created under the party committees, must hold the economic administrators to the strictest accountability for any over-expenditure, exceeding of the norms or financial limits, or poor business practices of squandering in the use of resources.

An important condition for switching all the branches of the national economy onto the intensive development is the acceleration of the work to improve the entire sphere of management of the economy -- administration, planning, and the economic mechanism.

Unfortunately, on our republic this work is being carried out in an uncoordinated manner, at slow rates. Only one-third of the associations and enterprises have changed over to the new evaluation indicators. Work of forming the production associations has been carried out poorly. During the past two or three years the number of such associations, factually speaking, has not increased. The brigade form in industry has encompassed only 36 percent of the total number of workers, as compared with 52 percent for the country as a whole.

The improvement of the economic mechanism is impossible without raising the level of activity of the party, Soviet, and economic agencies, and all the labor collectives, and we must sharply intensify the work that is being done in this direction.

At the November Plenum of the Central Committee, a number of key problems were raised. Those problems are of determining importance for the further development of the economy for the long-term period. In particular, the Plenum especially emphasized the

tremendous importance of developing base branches of industry, and first of all, the fuel-and-energy complex.

The CPSU Central Committee assigned our republic's party organization a task of very great importance -- the achievement of a turning point in the petroleum and gas extracting industry, and the achievement of an increase in petroleum extraction.

When comparing our affairs with this posing of the question, it must be stated outright that the situation in the petroleum industry causes the CPA Central Committee very serious alarm. For a prolonged period of time it has been unable to overcome its lag, and the administrators of the Azneft' Association (Comrade B.A. Gadzhiyev) and the Kaspmorneftegazprom Association (Comrade K.A. Abasov), instead of performing painstaking, persistent work, have been attempting to reduce the plans. It is time for them, finally, to make serious conclusions from the repeated criticism and to engage seriously in the job of introducing order at all the enterprises. It is necessary for a fundamental readjustment in the attitude toward problems of the petroleum and gas extracting industry to be taken by the party's city and rayon committees, the AzSSR Academy of Sciences, our branch institutions, and geological services, in a word, by everyone who is linked with the work of the petroleum workers.

Our primary task is to increase petroleum production. The successful fulfillment of that task requires the party committees and the appropriate republic-level agencies to intensify the assistance provided to the Azneft' and Kaspmorneftegazprom Associations, and to the petroleum- and gas-extracting and drilling enterprises, and to concentrate their attention on the resolution of the key problems in the branch and the improving of the working and everyday conditions of the petroleum workers. Stabilizing, and then steadily increasing, the production of petroleum, restoring the former glory of the republic's petroleum industry, are a matter of honor for the entire party organization of Azerbaijan.

We attach special importance to questions of the steady satisfying of the needs of the national economy and the public for natural gas. In this regard a situation that causes unrest is the unsatisfactory work of AzSSR Glavgas, and the serious shortcomings in its leadership's activities.

The proper order does not exist in the system of the main administration. They are frequent interruptions in the rate of supplying gas to customers in industry and the communal management, and especially to the public. This causes numerous justified complaincs from the workers. The gasification of cities and villages is being carried out at low rates. The proper attention is not being paid to the technical re-equipping of the gas systems or to the reduction of the gas consumption in excess of limits. No active struggle is being waged against thefts of gas or to inefficient methods of using it.

Since we have tremendous deposits of gas and regularly overfulfill the plans for producing it, we cannot and do not have the right to allow a situation in which the population of the republic does not receive the complete amount of gas it needs, and suffers from the cold spells during the autumn and winter. It is time for the leadership of Glavgaz (Comrade R.G. Mamedov) to make serious conclusions. And it is probably also time for us, in the CPA Central Committee and the AzSSR Council of Ministers, to make the appropriate conclusions.

A large number of shortcomings also exist in the activities of the Aztransgaz Association. The association's leadership (Comrade A.R. Ragimov) should show a bit more concern for introducing the proper order in its management.

During recent years much has been done in the republic to develop the petroleum-refining industry. However, the industrial potential that has been created has not yet been producing the proper return. Despite the considerable increase that has been achieved in the capital-labor ratio, the growth rates for volumes of production

are low. During the current year, as compared with 1980, the depth of petroleum refining has been reduced, and the return on investment has been reduced by almost 15 percent. For 1983 the plan provides for the refining of petroleum in a volume greater than that expected during the current year, but less than the assignment of the five-year plan.

AzSSR Minneftekhimprom (Comrade N.M. Aliyev) is obliged to guarantee a more comprehensive approach to questions of the efficient use of petroleum raw materials, keeping in mind the further deepening of refinement, the increase in the yield of light petroleum products and high-grade lubricating oils, and the considerable reduction of the share of fuel oil in the overall volume of final output. It is necessary to accelerate the rates of remodeling and technical re-equipping of the branch, and to achieve the prompt construction and activation of all the planned structures. Incidentally, during the current year the ministry disrupted the capital construction plan, and the parties responsible for this are the minister himself and those who engage in questions of construction.

As is well known, a large amount of attention is currently being devoted in the republic to the accelerated development of power engineering and much has already been done in this direction. As a result of the selfless labor performed by the construction workers, installation workers, and operational workers, the second power unit was recently activated at Azerbaijan GRES, and the start-up and adjustment operations are being completed at the first hydroelectrical assembly at the Shamkhorskaya GES. Next year it will be necessary, with accelerated rates, to continue the work of the further reinforcement of the republic's energy base.

This is our long-term view. As for current affairs, there are a lot of shortcomings and omissions. The work of Azglavenergo (Comrades M.M. Imanov and Kh.G. Ismaylov) suffers from serious flaws. Because of the poor work of Azglavenergo and the unsatisfactory preparation of the system for the autumn and winter period, there has been frequent interruptions and outages in the supplying of electrical energy to customers in the national economy and to the public. It is precisely for this reason, essentially speaking, that the November plan was disrupted by many of the major enterprises in industry.

Of course, the main administration does have objective difficulties, which are well known to us. At the same time, the available capabilities are being used far from completely. There are frequent breakdowns and idle-time periods with the power units at the electric power stations, the level of operation of the energy systems is low, the repair operations are not carried out promptly, and the limiting of the consumption of the energy resources is not organized satisfactorily. The administrators of Azglavenergo actually do not know the branches in which the overexpenditure is occurring, or where and in what direction they should take steps. In this matter, if I may speak bluntly, there is complete confusion. At the same time the work that has been carried out during recent days with the participation of the USSR first deputy minister of power engineering and electrification, which made it possible to improve the situation, demonstrates the considerable reserves that we have at our disposal.

We required Comrades M.M. Imanov and Kh.G. Ismaylov to guarantee the reliable work of the entire energy system. The questions of the efficient consumption of electrical energy, as we have already mentioned, must be considered in a more meaningful manner by all the ministries and departments, and the party and Soviet agencies in the outlying areas.

The chemical and petrochemical industry will receive further development in 1983. The draft version of the plan provides for an increase next year in the volumes of production by 4.8 percent, including 6.2 percent in the petrochemical industry. However, we feel that the opportunities of these branches are considerably greater.

The administrators of the enterprises in the chemical and petrochemical industry and the party committees must set down and carry out decisive measures to guarantee the maximum work load being placed on the existing capacities, the raising of the technical level of production, the efficient use of the existing resources of hydrocarbon raw materials, and the increase in the share of the final output.

During the period that has elapsed in the current five-year plan, machine-building received further development. In our republic, on the initiative of Comrade G.A. Aliyev, new capacities were constructed and activated in the radio electronics and electrical engineering industries, instrument-building, and other industries, and the carrying out of a broad program of technical re-equipping at existing enterprises is continuing. During the first two years of the 11th Five-Year Plan, the volume of production in machine-building increased by 18 percent, as compared with the planned 17.1; the percentage of the branch in the overall volume of industrial production increased to 17.3 percent, as compared with 16.6 in 1980.

It is planned to develop machine-building at outstripping rates in 1983 also. Capital investments in an amount that is almost 1.3 times greater than during the current year are being allocated for these purposes. Construction will continue for new enterprises and capacities in the electronic and radio industry, in the communications-equipment industry, and instrument-building. It is planned to increase the volumes of production in the branch by 9.2 percent, and during the three-year period, by almost 29 percent, which is 2.5 points higher than the assignment.

However, having in mind the strategic course taken by us for the accelerated development of machine-building, it is necessary to strive for its higher return, and primarily in the newly created progressive branches.

At the November Plenum a large amount of attention was paid to questions of increasing the production and improving the quality of consumer goods. In this direction a considerable amount of work has been done in the republic during recent years, but we cannot be satisfied with the results that were achieved. The created capabilities in the branches in Group B are not being used completely, and the public's demand for certain commodities remains unsatisfied. The principle blame for this lies primarily on the ministries of light, local, timber, and woodworking industry. These ministries were repeatedly criticized for their regular failures to fulfill the plans in the assignment variety and for the poor quality of the articles being produced and the poor use of local raw materials, but no substantial shifts have yet occurred.

We demand that Comrades S.M. Ibragimov, S.S. Akhundov, and A.A. Ayriyan carry out a decisive turning point in the direction of improving the activities of the ministries and the state of affairs at their subordinate enterprises.

Unsatisfactory use is being made of the large opportunities for increasing the production and improving the quality of consumer goods at enterprises in heavy industry. There is absolutely no way of justifying the low volumes of production of consumer goods at the Soyuzneftemash Association (Comrade R.A. Mamemod), at many enterprises in machine-building, ferrous metallurgy, and the chemical industry (Comrades F.M. Sadykhov, N.B. Babayev), etc., which situation has been the result of the stagnation and the indifferent attitude taken to this matter by their administrators.

In conformity with the principles stated at the 26th CPSU Congress and the decisions of the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, the 1983 plan provides for the outstripping growth rates in the production of consumer goods. For purposes of the broader involvement of the branches in Group A in the resolution of this task, a new indicator is being introduced into their plans -- the output of consumer goods in mass demand per ruble of wage fund.

Today the task being posed for the administrators at all levels is the guaranteeing of the production of commodities in mass demand at every enterprise in the volume of the age fund, and the achieving not only of the fulfillment, but the overfulfillment of the assignments established for 1983. I emphasize that the indicator of production of commodities for the nation is viewed by us as one of the chief criteria when evaluating the activities of the ministries, departments, and enterprises. It is precisely from these positions that the party and soviet agencies in the outlying areas should approach this and hold the administrators to strict accountability for failing to produce commodities for the nation.

At the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee a large amount of attention was devoted to problems of improving the transportation services for the national economy. When analyzing the work of the republic's transportation organizations in the light of the requirements stated by the Plenum, it is necessary to note that these activities reveal a large number of unresolved problems in the use of reserves. They were mentioned in detail at the plenum of the CPA Central Committee that was held in October 1982.

The tense situation in the operation of rail transportation continues to prevail. In addition to the unsatisfactory work of the railroad workers themselves, one of the basic reasons for this situation is the extremely neglected state of the sidings at the enterprises that are the freight shippers and recipients. For almost 20-30 years many of these sidings, practically speaking, have not been developing and are now in a hazardous condition. An incompletely responsible attitude toward questions of putting the transportation management in the proper condition is taken by the administrators in enterprises under the ministries of industrial construction, rural construction, the building-materials industry, the food industry, Glavazmeliovodstroy, Glavbakstroy, and others.

The rolling stock is being used unsatisfactorily on the railroads, there has been a reduction in the railroad-car turnover norm, and considerable amounts of idle time are being incurred for railroad cars awaiting loading or unloading operations. Since the beginning of 1982 the average idle time for railroad cars on sidings at industrial enterprises has exceeded the established norm by more than one hour, 187,000 railroad cars were delayed, while all of us have been constantly requesting railroad cars, and the above-norm idle time has reached a total of 1.2 million car-hours. The 3-shift unloading of cars is still unorganized, and no provision is made for the prompt shipment out of the railroad stations of the incoming freight that has been addressed to individual enterprises in the republic.

Our first-priority task is to complete the year successfully in all branches of industry, transportation, and communication, for all their most important technical-economic indicators, and to prepare promptly for the new year, in which there will be a considerable increase in the scope of the operations.

I would like to express the conviction that the heroic working class and all the workers in industry and transportation in our republic, continuing the glorious traditions of the 1970's and using the rich experience that has been accumulated in the organization of highly productive work, will cope outstandingly with the tasks of the third year of the 11th Five-Year Plan.

As was noted at the November 1982 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, the central place in the party's plans are occupied by measures that are linked with the realization of the Food Program. "...The fulfillment of the Food Program," Comrade Yu. V. Andropov emphasized, "cannot be prolonged. The workers in the agro-industrial complex must, from day to day, increase their efforts. They must work in such a way as to assure that the tremendous amounts of money that are being channeled into the resolution of this task yield a return today and an even greater return tomorrow."

The Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee has deemed it necessary for the plenums of the party's committees and the sessions of the Soviets of People's Deputies which will discuss the plans for next year to consider thoroughly the rate of implementation of the decisions of the May 1982 Plenum of the Central Committee, for all the practical actions in this very important sector of the economy to be checked against the Food Program. The CPA Central Committee hereby informs the administrators of the ministries and the rayon that, throughout the year, it will regularly return to the questions of the fulfillment of the Food Program.

The plenums of the CPA Central Committee that were held in March, June, and October 1982 and the conferences at the Central Committee developed a concrete program for the further dynamic development of the republic's entire agroindustrial complex. And, as has been indicated by the results of the elapsed period of the five-year plan, thanks to the selfless labor of the rural workers and the consistent carrying out of the party's economic strategy and agrarian policy, our republic's agriculture has been developing at steadily high rates and there has been a steady increase in the contribution made by our republic to the country's single national-economic complex.

The chief trend in the Food Program is the further intensification of agricultural production, the steady increase in the productivity of vegetable and animal husbandry, the effective use of the land resources, especially the irrigated land, and the increase in the return on every ton of fertilizers, every piece of machinery, of the entire tremendous economic and scientific-technical potential that has been created in agriculture.

The successful carrying out of the extensive measures that have been developed by us for the implementation of the decisions of the May 1982 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee requires first of all the increase in party and state discipline in all sectors. And a very important indicator of the effectiveness of this work is the unconditional fulfillment of the plans not only for the ministry, department, or rayon as a whole, but also for each brigade or animal farm, each labor collective.

And yet, during the current year, when the republic has newly achieved good harvests of agricultural crops, certain farms have failed to fulfill their production plans and have had a considerable reduction in the gross harvest of the grain. These farms are in Agdashskiy, Apsheronskiy, Yevlakhskiy, Divichinskiy, Zhdanovskiy, Kasum-Ismailovskiy, Saatlinskiy, and other rayons. A considerably smaller amount of cotton was sold to the state, as compared with last year, by farms in Mir-Bashirskiy, Zhdanovskiy, Kyurdamirskiy, Salyanskiy, and other rayons.

For the republic as a whole, more than 390 farms failed to assure the fulfillment of the current year's assignment for the production of grain; 29, for the sale of grapes to the state; 24 farms and 240 brigades, for cotton; and 40 farms and almost 100 brigades, for vegetables and fruits. The administrators of the agricultural ministries and departments and of individual rayons have become reconciled to such situations, and sometimes attempt to use overall indicators to conceal the shortcomings and miscalculations in their work.

At the plenum of the CPA Central Committee in July 1982, the task was posed to increase the average annual harvest yield of grain in the 11th Five-Year Plan to 26-28 quintals per hectare; grapes, 95-100; vegetables, 220-230; melon crops, 120-125; potatoes, 100-105; fruits, 35-40; green tea leaves, 50-55 quintals per hectare. But, as has been demonstrated by the results of the first two years, we are still lagging behind the planned level.

Many rayons and farms that have identical natural and climatic conditions have been obtaining, from year to year, different harvests of agricultural crops. Take, for example, the Shirvan group of rayons. The grain-growers in Zardobskiy Rayon this year produced roughly 26 quintals of grain per hectare, but those in Kyurdamirskiy produced 19.9, and Udzharskiy, only 15.6 quintals. The harvest yield of grain crops has been

unjustifiably low in Dzerbrailskiy, Kusarskiy, Yevlakhskiy, Zangelanskiy, Masallinskiy, Shaumyanovskiy, and certain other rayons.

I would especially like to mention the production and procurement of corn grain. For the five-year plan we set down a broad program for extending this valuable crop. And last year rather good results were achieved. However, this year, there has been a reduction in the harvest yield of corn grain. The work was organized in an extremely unsatisfactory way in Udzharskiy, Pushkinskiy, Geokchayskiy, Neftechalinskiy, Akhsuinskiy, Agdamskiy, Khachmasskiy, Zardobskiy, and Fizulinskiy Rayons, and on farms in Nakhichevan ASSR, where fewer than 20 quintals of corn grain were produced per hectare. The overwhelming majority of rayons have not yet completed the harvesting of the corn. It is necessary to take urgent steps to achieve a situation in which, literally within the next few days, all the remaining harvest can be brought in from the fields.

The November Plenum devoted special attention to problems of the further development of animal husbandry, increasing the production and procurements of meat, milk, and other output, and to improving the way in which they are supplied to the public. This is a component part of the Food Program.

Although the republic as a whole has been fulfilling all the plans with regard to animal husbandry, the state of the development of the branch does not correspond to the growing needs. There is still a large number of kolkhozes and sovkhozes where the livestock productivity rate is low, there is a high percentage of unfertile cows, and there is an unsatisfactory situation with regard to pedigree breeding, zooveterinary services, accounting and reporting practices on the animal farms, and, as a whole, planning and production discipline.

The state of affairs in our animal husbandry was the subject of a thorough discussion in March 1982 at a plenum of the CPA Central Committee, which worked out an extended program for our work for the 11th Five-Year Plan and for the period until 1990. That plan has become an organic part of the Food Program and completely conforms to the requirements of the May Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

The measures that were worked out provide for increasing production as follows in the social sector by the end of the five-year plan: meat, to 133,000 tons; milk, to 480,000 tons; eggs, to 463 million; average milk yield, to 2,050 kilograms; and average turnover weight of cattle, to 360 kilograms. As has been demonstrated by the results of the first two years of the five-year plan, the task that has been posed is, as yet, being resolved slowly. The persons who must bear the responsibility for this first of all are the administrators of the Ministry of Agricultural -- Comrades M.G. Askerov, R.M. Ismaylov, and I.R. Abilov; Minpoloovoshchkhoz -- Comrades T.Kh. Orudzhev, F.Z. Gasanov; and Gosvinkomitet -- Comrades Yu.K. Rzayev and I.A. Zeynalov.

The annual plan for purchases of livestock and poultry is threatened with disruption on farms in Agdashkiy Rayon (Comrade A.G. Bakhyshov); Geokchayskiy Rayon (Comrade S.M. Velimamedov); Divichinskiy Rayon (Comrade L.Kh. Mekhtiyev); and Kedabekskiy Rayon (Comrade A.M. Bayramov). The procurement of milk is poorly organized on farms in a number of rayons.

Many administrators have not made the proper conclusions from the criticism that was expressed at the plenum of the Central Committee and have failed to change their attitude toward animal husbandry. There is no other way to explain the fact that the number of farms that have failed to fulfill their plan for procurement of meat and milk during the current year continues to be considerably high. For that reason during the period that has elapsed in the 11th Five-Year Plan, farms have undersold to the state more than 7,000 tons of livestock and poultry, and almost 16,000 tons of milk. These figures conceal our real reserves which, of course, must be put into action.

There has also been an extremely unsatisfactory rate of fulfillment of the program that has been set down for the construction, remodeling, and technical reequipping of animal-husbandry complexes, poultry plants, and fodder plants and fodder shops, and for the reinforcement of the branch's material-technical base. The party and soviet agencies must increase the responsibility borne by the farm administrators and specialists for the fulfillment of the planned assignments, for the strict observance of state discipline, and must eliminate within the shortest period of time the shortcomings that have been noted.

The current year was a favorable one for fodder production. However, to the republic as a whole, only the plan for procurements of coarse fodders has been fulfilled. One cannot reconcile himself to the fact that the plan for procurement of silage was fulfilled by only 88 percent; fodder root crops, 81 percent; and the production of vitamin-enriched grass meal, 96 percent. The assignments for the procurement of coarse fodders were not fulfilled by 10 rayons; hay, 16; senazh, 3; and straw, 13. With the exception of 21 rayons, the others have not yet coped with the laying in of supplies of silage. The situation is aggravated by the fact that many farms have been taking a wasteful, uneconomical attitude toward fodders. They are given to the livestock in unprepared form, without being combined ahead of time into the proper rations. This, naturally, results in their low return. It is necessary everywhere to organize the efficient use of every kilogram of fodders, and to achieve their high effectiveness.

Attaching exceptionally great importance to the increase in the production of products of animal husbandry during the winter period, the CPSU Central Committee, CPSU Council of Ministers, AUCCTU, and Komsomol Central Committee recently adopted a special decree, entitled "Extension of the All-Union Socialist Competition for the Successful Carrying Out of Wintering-Over Operations for Livestock, and for the Increase in the Production and Purchases of Products of Animal Husbandry During the 1982-1983 Period." All the organizing and party-political work in animal husbandry must currently be directed at the fulfillment of the tasks that were advanced by that decree. The CPA Central Committee has posed the task of increasing during the present winter period, the purchase of meat, as a minimum, by 8-10 percent; milk, 6-8 percent; and eggs, 12-15 percent; and of achieving an increase in the milk yields by 60-70 kilograms, as compared with last year's winter period.

Comrades! The party requires us to guarantee the needs of the public for products of animal husbandry basically from our own production. That is a global, exceptionally complicated and tremendous sociopolitical task, which we must resolve within the next few years.

In this regard I would like to dwell on questions of increasing the effectiveness of using our meat resources, of increasing the production of meat. During recent year our republic has done a lot in this direction, the regular fulfillment of plans is assured, and there has been an increase in the procurements of meat. An improvement has been noted in the activities of Azglavptitseprom.

At the same time, as has been indicated by analysis, increases in meat attributable to beef and lamb have been practically nonexistent since the beginning of the current year. Most of the farms are continuing to sell livestock spasmodically to the meat-processing enterprises, and this has been leading to considerable losses of meat resources. This situation lacks the proper order, and the parties that are primarily guilty of this are the agricultural ministries and departments, and the administrators of the rayons.

In its turn, AzSSR Minmyasomolprom has not been taking steps to assure the more efficient use of meat resources. Frequently the livestock is left for weeks at a time without fodder or the proper care at collection areas at the meat combines, and for that reason every animal loses 500-600 grams in weight every day. However, this situation does not particularly alarm the workers at the meat combines or the administrators of Minmyasomolprom, or Minister A.G. Mamedov.

Minmyasomolprom has been called upon to organize the appropriate fattening-up of the livestock at its specialized fattening-up collection areas, and to guarantee the obtaining there of the appropriate weight increase. Unfortunately, this job has been allowed to drift along by itself. Instead of creating additional fattening-up areas at the meat combines, the leadership of Minmyasomolprom annually attempts to get a reduction in the plan for weight increase. For example, in 1971 it had a plan for weight increase of 1,900 tons, which figure kept dropping annually, and which last year came to 1,200 tons, and this year, to only 800 tons. During the years of the 9th Five-Year Plan, on average, more than 1,800 tons of weight increase was obtained at the fattening-up areas at meat combines; in the 10th, 1,500 tons; and last year, only 1,100 tons. For the first 11 months of the year, the weight increase is only 724 tons.

Serious shortcomings exist in the organizing of the use of meat resources. Minmyasomolprom engages poorly in questions of changing over to work involving technology processes without waste products; of assuring the complete use of secondary raw materials; and of introducing progressive methods into the acceptance and turnover of livestock. Last year the percentage of livestock that was accepted at the places of production and that was shipped by special motor transportation came to only 7 percent of the overall volume of livestock procurements, and this is considerably less than the average nationwide indicator.

The Council of Ministers, and the departments of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan should carefully analyze these questions, introduce the proper order, and strictly monitor the implementation of the measures that have been set down.

We can and must achieve a considerable improvement in providing the republic's population with fish and products produced from fish. The Caspian, our rivers, and other bodies of water have a large amount of fish of various species, but the catching and reproduction of that fish have been organized unsatisfactorily. We are making serious claims in this regard against the administrators of Azerrybprom -- Comrades T.F. Mamedov and A.A. Okhanov; and Azuprrybkhoz -- Comrade N.F. Rustamov, which have obviously become accustomed to the shortcomings in their work, and who have been doing practically nothing to increase the volumes of fish production or the use of the very rich capabilities that the republic has at its disposal. This has been mentioned many times already, and we hope that the administrators of Azerrybprom and Azuprrybkhoz will finally react properly to the criticism and will make the necessary conclusions. The administrators of the rayons, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes, must also devote the proper attention to this problem.

Much fish is being lost because of destruction by poachers. However, the fight against poachers is obviously being carried out insufficiently. The leadership of Yuzhkasprybvod (Comrade A.A. Bayramov), jointly with the rights-protection agencies, which have been poorly conducting the fight against the poachers and sometimes even protecting them, and with the agencies of people's control, must put up a reliable offensive against poaching.

It would seem that, taking into consideration the importance of supplementing the foods resources by increasing the catching of fish, the AzSSR Council of Ministers will engage seriously in resolving this matter.

An important component in the realization of the Food Program must be the creation of subsidiary plots at enterprises, and the increase on that basis of the production of foodstuffs. However, the work that is being carried out in this direction does not conform to the demands that are being made. The administrators of many ministries and departments do not take a properly responsible attitude toward the organizing of subsidiary plots there and they occupy a waiting position. The administrators who engage unsatisfactorily in this matter include those at the Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Management (Comrade T.Kh. Orudzhev); Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water

Management (Comrade M.I. Aliyev); Food Industry (Comrade K.S. Mamedov); Meat and Dairy Industry; Housing and Communal Management (Comrade V.G. Mayorov); Goskomselkhoztekhnika (Comrade Kh.G. Kerimov); and others.

We must have a precise program for the development of the subsidiary plots for the five-year period, with a consideration of the concrete plan for the production of meat per worker at one's enterprise. There is no need to be enthusiastically carried away by the creation of hot houses, orangeries, as is currently taking place, but, rather, to concentrate efforts on the development of subsidiary farms precisely aimed at meat production. It is necessary at such times to proceed from the instructions of the CPSU Central Committee to the effect that every industrial enterprise, every organization, must have such a farm.

Gosplan, and the agricultural ministries and departments, are obliged every year to consider, in the plans for economic and social development, the allocation for the subsidiary farms of the land and the necessary material and technical resources. All the work being carried out in this direction must be taken under the direct supervision of the departments of the CPA Central Committee and the AzSSR Council of Ministers. It is necessary to increase the activity rate and the work performed by the Commission for Subsidiary Farms, of the CPA Central Committee.

By decree of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers, dated 5 August 1982, kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and other agricultural enterprises are authorized to sell to consumer-cooperative organizations and at kolkhoz markets, at prices that are determined on the basis of agreement between the two sides, vegetables, melon crops, fruits, and berries in the amount of up to 10 percent of the planned volume of their purchases, and also the above-plan output of those crops, with an offset to fulfillment of the state purchases plan. This measure has been called upon to achieve a considerable improvement in the rate to which the public in our cities are supplied with fruit and vegetable produce and to eliminate losses of that produce in the process of procurement. However, the proper work has not been set up in the republic for fulfilling this decree. Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Management, Ministry of Trade, Azerittifak, and the other interested ministries and departments, and administrators of rayons must render to the kolkhozes and sovkhozes every kind of assistance in selling fruits, vegetables, and melon crops to consumer cooperatives and in kolkhoz markets; must make it a broad practice to create trade-services bureaus at the kolkhoz markets; provide the farms with the necessary trade and warehouse areas; and open up special stores, booths, and shops at the markets.

Comrades! For 1983, provision is made for the intensive plans in the field of agriculture. The volume of gross output of agriculture will be increased, as compared with the plan for the current year, by 6.5 percent; and labor productivity, by 5.7 percent. The chief tasks in the field of agriculture were defined by the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. They are contained in the Food Program that was developed by the party. At the present time it is necessary, in conformity with the weather conditions that have developed, to take steps to assure the fulfilling of the entire set of current agricultural operations at the highest agrotechnical level, and to lay a solid foundation for next year's harvest.

The agroindustrial associations have been called upon to take all steps to promote the carrying out of the tasks that have been posed. Those associations, in conformity with the decisions of the May Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, are currently being created in the rayons, oblasts, and autonomous republics.

The party's oblast, city, and rayon committees must take all steps to complete within the next few days the manning of them with highly trained personnel who have demonstrated their worth in practical work and who know the economy and the organizing of production. The administrators of the agroindustrial associations have been given large rights and duties. They have been called upon to guarantee first of all the competent leadership of agriculture and the other branches of the agroindustrial complex

and the organizing of the harmonious operation of all its links, and to strive for the steady increase in the production of agricultural output.

The party committees have been called upon to increase constantly their role and responsibility for the state of affairs in the branches of the agroindustrial complex, and for the implementation of the oblast and rayon food programs. It is necessary to take all steps to maintain the creative activity and initiative of the agroindustrial associations, but, most importantly, to prevent any substitutions, any depersonalization or petty guardianship, but instead to develop independence and initiative, to provide daily assistance in finding the optimal decision of the tasks and vital problems that are confronting the collectives, and to operate in close contact, being guided always and in all matters by the interests of society and the state.

The CPA Central Committee is convinced that the agricultural workers, relying upon the rich experience and high level of skills, will mark the year of 1983 and the five-year plan as a whole by record-breaking indicators in all branches of agricultural production, and will make a considerable contribution to the implementation of the country's Food Program.

The November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee advanced as one of the central tasks in the national economy the job of introducing order into capital construction. It is from these positions that we must view the state of affairs in our republic's capital construction.

During the eleven months that have elapsed, there has been assured an increase in volumes, as compared with last year, for capital investments, construction-installation and contract operations, and the prompt completion of the construction of projects of primary importance to the state, where a high concentration of forces and resources has been achieved. The second energy unit has been activated at the Azerbaijan GRES, as well as the capacities for producing electric motors at the Baku Electrical Machine-Building Plant imeni 50-letiye LKSM Azerbaydzhana; the technological processes have been started up at the Apsheron breeder reactor -- one of the major projects in our republic's Food Program.

At the same time, the situation as a whole in the branch remains tense, and the established assignments are not being fulfilled. A situation that is especially worrisome is the fact that the volumes of activation of fixed assets have dropped, as compared with 1981. There has been a lag behind the planned rates of the 11th Five-Year Plan and that has had a detrimental influence upon the effectiveness of the capital investments and has led to an increase in unfinished construction.

Minpromstroy, Minselstroy, Minmontazhspetstroy, Glavazmeliovodstroy, Glavbakstroy, and others have not achieved the proper concentration of forces and means in projects slated for activation in the next reporting period, their high rates of construction, or their prompt activation. They have failed to meet the deadlines for the activation of 17 important projects. A very strained stituation has been created in the construction of capacities at the Plant imeni Leyt. Shmidt, Plant imeni P. Montin, the Kishlinskiy Machine-Building Plant, and others. Their activation by the end of December requires the fulfillment of a large volume of construction operations. A serious situation has developed in the construction of the Kurinskiy Pipeline No. 2, the Large Sewage System of the city of Baku, the flour milling combines in Agdam and Nakhichevan, and a number of plants engaged in primary viticulture. Comrades T.Sh. Safaraliyev, T.M. Kyazimov, A.M. Masimov, Sh.N. Gasanov, S.G. Gadzhiyev, Yu.Sh. Aliyev, and others must know that they bear personal responsibility for the fulfillment of the established plans and primarily for guaranteeing the activation of the projects scheduled for activation in the next planning period.

The elimination of the shortcomings in the work of the contract subdivisions is one of the decisive conditions for increasing the effectiveness of capital construction.

The administrators of the construction and installation organizations have been making poor use of the available reserves, and have not been manifesting the proper self-interestedness in raising the level of industrialization of construction, in expanding the application of progressive structural elements and materials, in increasing the degree of plant readiness of the articles, or in training highly qualified personnel. At the construction sites a large volume of final finishing operations is carried out manually; construction technology is operated during only one shift; and means of minor mechanization are being employed to an extremely insufficient extent. All this has a deterimental effect upon labor productivity, the growth rate of which, as compared with last year, fell to five-ninths [of the 1981 figure].

Analysis shows that the planned volumes of construction and installation operations, as a rule, remain unbalanced with the production of individual types of materials and articles which have been critically needed by the construction sites for a prolonged period of time. And yet the funds that are allocated for the development of the production base in the branch are being used extremely unsatisfactorily. That has been mentioned several times. It is necessary to take the more decisive steps to correct this situation, to carry out in a planned manner the technical policy in construction, and to guarantee the outstripping development of the production base in the branch.

To a large extent the fault for the state of affairs that has been created at the construction sites lies with the ministries and departments that are the customers, and that frequently take an irresponsible approach to the resolution of the key questions of capital construction. For example, the leadership of the Azerelektrosvet Association failed to provide the necessary technological equipment for the capacities that were to be installed and dragged out their activation.

A problem that remains an unresolved one is the supplying of the construction sites with material resources. The funds for cement and armature steel are being considerably underused, and less lumber and rolled metal has been received than was received last year. The reason for the situation that has developed is the extremely poor work performed by AzSSR Gossnab and the supply organizations of the ministries and departments themselves. Although, at Gossnab itself, 530 persons engage today in supporting capital construction and there are more than 2300 workers in the supply subdivisions of the contract ministries and departments, the work performed by this large army of supply specialists does not have the proper precision or time-responsiveness. The administrators of Gossnab (Comrade R. Guseynov) and the contract organizations are obliged to carry out a sharp improvement in their work, to unite their efforts, and to supply the construction sites promptly with resources and assure the complete use of the allocated funds.

There have been intolerable instances when, in certain cities and rayons, material resources have been deflected from planned national-economic projects. For example, State Committee on Vineyards and Viticulture, while disrupting the construction and activation of planned housing, children's preschool institutions, and production capacities, has been channeling resources into projects that are being constructed outside the plan. Unfortunately, the party and Soviet administrators in the rayons not only have not been doing anything to prevent this, but frequently they themselves are the initiators of the violations. Projects outside the plan are being built in Divichinskiy, Vartashenskiy, Zhdanovskiy, Dzhebrailskiy, and a number of other rayons, and I do not want to list all of them. Let us assume that it is necessary to hold to strict party responsibility those persons who violate state procedure.

The administrators of the contract organizations, the customer ministries and departments, and the party and Soviet agencies must concentrate their attention on the mobilizing of the efforts and means, the material and manpower resources, in the projects scheduled for activation during this planning year, and must take under special supervision the state of affairs at each construction site. Every project

scheduled for activation must become a nationwide project today, and its construction must be aided by the labor collectives. It is necessary to establish a smooth system of two- and three-shift operations, to coordinate precisely the efforts of the construction, installation, and startup organizations, and to mobilize to the maximum extent all the collectives toward the achievement of the main goal -- the activation of the planned projects.

Comrades! The draft version of the plan for our republic's economic and social development in 1983 has provided for a tense program of capital construction. It will be necessary to use state capital investments at a rate that is 8.4 percent higher than the present year, and to fulfill construction and installation work valued at 923 million rubles, with an increase of 7.5 percent as compared with the present year's level. These indicators exceed the assignments for the five-year plan. It is planned to guarantee the effectiveness of the funds being invested by assuring the outstripping growth of the volume of activation of fixed assets, which will grow by 16.5 percent.

The November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee required the decisive struggle against the dispersion of efforts and funds in a large number of projects, and required the increase in the share of remodeling and modernization and the reduction in the number of new construction projects. The submitted draft version of the plan provides for the reduction in the number of projects intended for production purposes which are simultaneously under construction; the increase in the funds provided per construction project; and the lowering of the relative level of incompleted construction. It is planned to activate such major projects as the power units at the Azerbaijan GRES and the Shamkhorskaya GES, with an overall capacity of 490,000 kilowatts, and the first phase of the Baku Deepwater Foundations Plant. Construction will begin at a petroleum catalytic-cracking complex at the NBNZ imeni Vladimir Ilich, a large-scale poultry plant in Siazan, a large number of projects in the Food Program, and others.

It is necessary for us to prepare promptly for the fulfillment of the 1983 construction program; to inform the trusts, administrations, and brigades of their specific plans within the shortest period of time; to develop concrete schedules for rhythmical operation at every construction site; in coordination with precise material-technical support, and to provide the construction sites completely with construction-planning and estimate documentation. The customer ministries and departments must, by the end of the year, resolve all the questions linked with the delivery of equipment to the projects, and must constantly monitor the rate of that work.

All questions of capital construction must be constantly in the center of attention of the party, Soviet, and trade-union agencies, and the capital-construction commissions of the party's oblast, city, and rayon committees.

Comrades! The draft version of the plan for our republic's economic and social development in 1983 adheres to the party line aimed at raising the material and cultural standard of living of the workers. It is planned to increase by 6.7 percent the national income that is to be used next year; the share of the consumption fund in the national income to be used will be 69 percent. There will be an increase in the public's real income, the payments and benefits from the social consumption funds, the wages paid to workers and employees, and the payment for the labor performed by kolkhoz members. A further development is planned for the network of general educational schools, children's-preschool, cultural-educational, medical, and other institutions. The activation of housing relying on all sources of financing is planned in the volume of 1.9 million square meters of total area; this amount of housing will make it possible to improve the housing conditions for approximately 180,000 persons.

The fulfillment of the program that has been set down requires a fundamental improvement in the activities of the ministries, departments, enterprises, and organizations, and the party committees. This question takes on special acuity for

us as a result of the fact that during the current year the construction of social projects in the republic is being carried out with a large lag.

There is an unfavorable situation in housing construction. For the republic as a whole, since the beginning of the year, there has been a considerable lag in the activation of the overall area of housing, with a large part of that lag being in the city of Baku. For many years the work of Glavbakstroy has evoked serious recriminations and been subjected to sharp criticism. The CPA Central Committee and the AzSSR Council of Miniters adopted a decree dealing with measures for improving its activities. The main administration was rendered a considerable amount of assistance, but no changes in its work are yet visible.

By the end of the year, in the city of Baku, it will be necessary to activate a considerable amount of housing and simultaneously to create a solid backlog for the successful fulfillment of the 1983 plans. However, the organizing work in this direction has not yet been carried out properly, and the staffs at the construction sites have been working with a low level of effectiveness. At construction sites under Glavbakstroy, there continues to be a shortage of manpower and a reduction in labor productivity, and in October-November only two homes were activated.

The main administration and the party and Soviet agencies in Baku must take decisive steps to accelerate the housing construction and to assure the unconditional fulfillment of its plans. This pertains equally to the party and Soviet agencies of Ali-Bayramly, Dzhalilabadskiy, Dzhebrail'skiy, Divichinskiy, and Khanlarskiy Rayons, where the housing construction is also being carried out unsatisfactorily.

A strained situation has developed with the activation of schools, preschool institutions, hospitals, and clinics. Minpromstroy, Minsel'stroy, Glavbakstroy, and the administrators of Agzhabedinskiy, Dzhalilabadskiy, Imishlinskiy, Yardymlinskiy, Kubatlinskiy, and Kel'badzharskiy Rayons must achieve the maximum mobilization of their efforts to guarantee, by the end of the year, the activation of all the planned social structures.

An important place in the program of social development is given to the providing of trade and everyday services to the public. Since the beginning of the five-year plan the republic has achieved an increase in commodity turnover and the volume of everyday services, and the material-technical base has received a definite development.

At the same time the development and level of organization of trade and everyday services have been lagging noticeably behind the growing demands of the republic's population. During the current year the plan for retail commodity turnover has been disrupted by the organizations of state and cooperative trade. Moreover, there has been a reduction in the volume of commodity turnover as compared with the corresponding period last year. The shortcomings in the operation of the public-nutrition enterprises are being eliminated slowly. The plan for sale of everyday services is not being fulfilled, and the level of everyday services provided to the public is lagging considerably behind the average nationwide level. In the sphere of trade and everyday services, one still encounters instances of embezzlement, fraud, spoilage of commodities, and pilferage of socialist property.

In 1983 it is planned to increase retail commodity turnover by 7.1 percent, and the volume of sale of everyday services will grow by 13 percent. For the successful fulfillment of the tasks that confront us, the administrators of Mintorg (Comrade S.Ch. Kasumova); Azerittifak (Comrade Ch.K. Gasanov); and Minbyt must engage more actively in eliminating the existing shortcomings, and must achieve a sharp improvement in the organization of operations and the raising of the level of services provided to the public.

Next year will see the further development of the system of public education, occupational-technical education, and the training of specialists in higher and

secondary special educational institutions. Gosplan, Minvuz, Minpros, and Gosfrofob, AzSSR, must activate even more the work of improving the educational and training process, of reinforcing the material-technical base, and raising the level of training of the students, specialists, and work cadres.

During recent years a definite amount of work has been done in the republic to fulfill a very important social task -- the improvement of the protection of the workers' health. However, our citizens continue to have a large number of claims against the public-health agencies, and against the quality of the medical aid being rendered. Minzdrav must devote more attention to the development of specialized medical assistance, the network of practical-scientific centers, interrayon branches and rural therapeutic outpatient departments, and must improve the quality of the training of medical personnel.

Comrades! The key problems of socioeconomic development and the improvement of the party leadership of economic and cultural construction, which problems were advanced by the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, define the chief trends for the application of the efforts of the party committees and organizations and of all the Communist Party members. The chief thing is increasing the rate of work to improve the entire situation with regard to the guidance and administration of the economy, and the activating of the large reserves that exist in the national economy; the intensifying of party supervision over the observance of nationwide interests; and the waging of a decisive struggle against any violations of party, state, or labor discipline. And this, in its turn, requires a still greater degree of smooth coordination and purposefulness in the activities of the party's oblast, city, and rayon committees, and the further intensification of the party's influence upon economic life as a whole, and requires a situation of high demandingness and moral discipline in all links of the party and state apparatus. We have in mind the creation of those economic and organizational conditions that would encourage highly efficient, productive labor, initiative, and enterprise. And, conversely, poor work, inactivity, irresponsibility must exert the most immediate and irreversible effect upon the material rewards paid to the workers, upon their official position, and upon their moral authority. Every party agency, every party organization must be held responsible for the observance of these party requirements.

Unfortunately, it is necessary again to state today that certain economic administrators, and party, Soviet, trade-union, and Komsomol agencies have not been taking the proper steps to reinforce in the labor collectives an atmosphere of planning and production discipline, an atmosphere of high efficiency, and they do not always respond in a well-principled manner to the shortcomings that occur. In the practical life of many ministries and departments and other republic-level organizations numerous conferences, sessions, and meetings continue to occupy a large place, as a result of which the lively, organizing, mass-political work with people on the spot -- at enterprises, construction sites, kolkhozes, and sovkhozes -- takes on secondary importance. It is precisely this work style that typifies the activities of the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Everyday Services for the Public, the Ministry of Communal Economy, Glavazmeliovodstroy, Azerittifak, Glavgaz, AzSSR, the executive committees of the city and rayon Soviets of People's Deputies, etc.

A reliable guarantee of the prompt fulfillment of the party-political, organizational, and ideological-educational measures that are aimed at the successful implementation of the principles and instructions of the part is the increasing of the effectiveness of the supervision of the execution of the directives issued by the party and the government, and of one's own decisions. As was noted at the Plenum, it is necessary to make it a rule that every new decision with regard to a particular question be adopted only when the previous decisions have been fulfilled, or when new circumstances have arisen. And that rule must be invariably observed.

An important condition for the successful activity of the Soviet and economic organizations is the constant improvement of the work with cadres. As was emphasized

at the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, "it is necessary to assign the personnel correctly so that the people in place in the decisive sectors are ones who are politically mature, competent, initiatory, and in possession of organizing capabilities and a sense of the new, without which it is impossible in our time to administer modern production successfully." In recent years the CPA Central Committee, the party committees in the outlying areas, and the primary party organizations have done a lot to improve the makeup of the cadres of economic administrators, to increase the demandingness, and to educate in them a sense of personal responsibility for the assigned work sector.

However, when measuring our work in this direction with the requirements of the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, we must note that considerable shortcomings occur in carrying it out, and there have been instances of promoting to responsible economic positions persons who have been insufficiently mature or competent. At Minvodkhoz, Minlesprom, Glavkolkhozsovkhozstroy, the Soyuzneftemash and Azerrybprom Associations, and others, the questions with regard to the providing of the complete staffing of the apparatus and the subordinate enterprises are being resolved slowly, there has been a frequent replacement of the administrative personnel, and no completely reliable reserve of cadres has been created.

The departments of the CPA Central Committee and the party committees must take effective steps to intensify the work with economic cadres, and must show daily attention to this category of workers, who, to a decisive degree, determine the successful carrying out of the party's economic policy. They must skillfully select, assign, and educate these cadres.

In this regard I would like to dwell on the following question. The system that has developed in our republic for raising the proficiency level of economic administrators is, for the most part, of a branch nature and has been planned for the average link. At the same time for approximately 7,000of our workers in the higher link of the administrative apparatus there has been organized, practically speaking, no training or system of refresher courses. The fulfillment of the forthcoming national-economic tasks requires a fundamental reconsideration of this important question. And one of the ways to resolve it may be the creation in the republic of an institute for the administration of the national economy, which could be given the responsibility for providing refresher courses for the economic administrators at the higher level. It would seem that AzSSR Council of Ministers and Gosplan, jointly with the Department of Organizational-Party Work, CPA Central Committee, should consider this question and submit their views.

Comrades! The most urgent task at this moment is the precise organization of the fulfillment of the decisions of the Plenum of the Central Committee and the conclusions and instructions of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Comrade Yu.V. Andropov. The methods and means of carrying out the tasks that have been assigned by the party must be discussed at plenums of the party's oblast, city, and rayon committees, at sessions of the Soviets of People's Deputies, at all ministries, departments, and primary party organizations, and in every labor collective. It is necessary everywhere to develop and to carry out practical steps to implement them, and to render concrete assignments of the 1983 plan with a consideration of the conditions at every enterprise, in every labor collective. When considering the plans for next year, it is necessary to discuss thoroughly the rate of the implementation of the decisions of the May 1982 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

In the light of the requirements of the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the speech given at that Plenum by Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, we must intensify and raise to a new qualitative level all the ideological and mass-political work being done in the republic, and must increase the activity rate of all means and methods of providing ideological support to the fulfillment of the party's plans. The chief things lies in making every Communist Party member, every worker, completely aware of the meaning and content of the materials pertaining to the November Plenum of the

CPSU Central Committee and the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet. This today, as Yuriy Vladimirovich Andropov emphasized, "is a most important task of the party committees and the Soviet, trade-union, and Komsomol organizations. The ideas, plans, and summonses of the party become, as is well known, a material force when they take possession of the masses." All the means of ideological-political, morale and pscyological influence must be subordinated to this goal.

The efforts of the mass-information media must be aimed at the broad propagandizing of the party and governmental decisions, at mobilizing the workers for their fulfillment. It is the duty of our press to illumine brightly the struggle being waged by the workers to increase the effectiveness of social production; to help the use of unused reserves and develop criticism and self-criticism; and to take direct aim at shortcomings and omissions. The agencies of mass information and propaganda, the editorial officers of newspapers and magazines, and the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting must strive persistently to improve the ideological content of the published items and broadcasts, to intensify the political and organizing role of the press, and to reinforce its tie with life.

In the nationwide struggle to implement the party's plans, an active combat role belongs to literature and art, to our entire rich and varied culture. Ministry of Culture, Goskino, the creative unions, and the cultural and educational institutions should participate more and more actively in mass-political work, in the ideological and moral education, and esthetic education, of the workers. It is the duty of all masters of culture to multiply their contribution to the reinforcement of a healthy, efficient, moral-psychological atmosphere; to strive persistently to unmask a philistine, consumer-minded psychology; and to use artistic means to brand instances of fraud and any violators of labor or moral discipline, or carriers of negative qualities.

Comrades! As you know, a plenum of the CPA Central Committee was held recently, and that plenum considered an organizational question. As a result of the assignment of Geydar Aliyevich Aliyev to the position of First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, the plenum released him from his duties as first secretary and member of the Bureau of the CPA Central Committee.

For 13½ years Geydar Aliyevich Aliyev headed the CPA Central Committee and skillfully led the Azerbaijani party organization. In the name of the republic's Communist Party members and workers, the plenum of the Central Committee expressed to Comrade G.A. Aliyev its heartfelt gratitude and thanks for his large and fruitful activity in carrying out the party's general line and the decisions issued by its congresses and the Plenums of the Central Committee, for his large personal contribution to the remarkable successes achieved by the economy, science, and culture, for raising the national standard of living during the years of the 9th, 10th, and 11th Five-Year Plans, and for creating in the republic a healthy moral-political atmosphere and an efficient, creative environment.

A long and brilliant speech was given at that plenum by Geydar Aliyevich Aliyev. He profoundly and completely analyzed the state of the republic's economy and presented a series of party-organizing, economic-political, and ideological tasks, the resolution of which will guarantee the improvement of all areas of activity of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan and the further upsurge of the republic's economy and culture.

Please allow me to assure the CPSU Central Committee and the Politburo of the Central Committee that the party organization and the workers of Azerbaijan, on the basis of the experience that has been accumulated, and enriching and developing the successes that have been achieved, will not spare their efforts or energy to carry out the decisions of the 26th Congress and the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee. We shall continue steadily to implement the general line of the Leninist party, to improve steadily our work style and methods, and to reinforce the atmosphere of collectivism and joint actions, efficiency, high demandingness, and personal

responsibility on the part of every worker in all the party, Soviet, trade-union, Komsomol, and economic agencies, and primarily in the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan. A painstaking attitude toward the accumulated experience, strict succession in the resolution of all the fundamental questions of the party guidance of the economy, ideology, and culture, in combination with a creative search for new forms and methods of organizing and educational work, will continue to occupy the central place in the activities of the party organization of Azerbaijan.

The Communist Party members and workers of Azerbaijan are firmly resolved to take new heights in communist construction and to make a worthy contribution to the further prosperity of our socialist Motherland. And we shall do everything necessary to assure that our beloved Azerbaijan, in the fraternal family of Soviet republics, continues to march in the victorious procession toward new goals, is always in the vanguard of the All-Union Socialist Competition, and is in the front ranks of the builders of communism.

Comrades! A very short period of time remains until that remarkable day when the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics celebrates its 60th birthday. The year 1982 has been proceeding under the sign of the preparation for the worthy greeting of that glorious celebration by our multinational Soviet state. The working class, the kolkhoz peasantry, and the intellectual class of Azerbaijan have done a lot to note the holiday of the friendship of the peoples with major labor successes and with an even greater reinforcement of its international ties with all the fraternal republics. The rate of the nationwide preparation for the holiday demonstrates with new force the great wisdom and invincible strength of the Leninist national policy and the ideological and sociopolitical unity of our multinational society.

The task of the party and Soviet agencies and the trade-union and Komsomol organizations lies in assuring that, on the high wave of labor enthusiasm and the creative initiative of the workers, there is further development of the socialist competition, a buildup of the rates of socioeconomic growth, and the exemplary conducting on 18 December of a communist subbotnik [volunteer labor day] devoted to the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR. In the socialist pledges being taken for next year, it is necessary to take into consideration all the existing reserves and capabilities and the accumulated experience, so as to guarantee the attainment of the greatest results in the third year of the 11th Five-Year Plan.

Please allow me, comrades, to assure the CPSU Central Committee and the Politburo of the Central Committee that the party organization and the workers of Azerbaijan, faithful to the glorious traditions, will apply all their efforts, knowledge, and experience for the successful implementation of the decisions of the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the principles and conclusions contained in the speech of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov, and will achieve great successes in the realization of the plans for economic and social development in 1983 and the entire 11th Five-Year Plan.

(Comrade K.M. Bagirov's speech was listened to with a large amount of attention and was repeatedly interrupted by applause.)

ACADEMICIAN ISSUES STATEMENT ON COSMOS-1402

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["Statement by Academician Oleg Belotserlovskiy in Interview" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow January 15 TASS -- Two types of nuclear energy sources -- nuclear reactors and radioisotope generators -- can be used in outer space, Academician Oleg Belotserkovskiy said in an interview with the USSR national television.

Power plants with nuclear reactors have been designed and are used in the Soviet Union. The academician stressed that questions pertaining to the use of nuclear energy sources in outer space had been discussed at the scientific-technical sub-committee of the U.N. Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space. The subcommittee drew the conclusion about the possibility of safe use of nuclear energy sources in outer space on condition that safety measures are observed.

On August 30, 1982, Oleg Belotserkovskiy said, artificial earth satellite Cosmos-1402, next in the series, with a nuclear power plant on board, was launched in the Soviet Union.

The power plant of the satellite, the academician explained, includes a small-size nuclear reactor, whose fuel core consists of fuel elements made of uranium enriched with uraniun 235. The fuel core is encased in a beryllium reflector, which has control elements ensuring reactor control and its shut-down after the end of operation.

On December 28, 1982, the Cosmos-1402 satellite, equipped with a safety system in accordance with international recommendations, completed the programme of work and ceased its active existence, the academician continued. Following a command from the earth, a system was activated, which switched off the reactor and divided the satellite into three fragments, one of which burned up on December 30 during its entry into dense layers of the atmosphere. The two remaining fragments are the main part of the satellite structure and the fuel core of reactor separated from it.

According to preliminary calculations, the scientist said, the main part of the satellite structure will enter the dense layers of the atmosphere late in January, and the fuel core -- in mid-February this year. The withdrawal of the fuel core with radioactive fission products from the reactor ensures guaranteed conditions for its burning up in the dense layers of the atmosphere and dispersal in the process of materials into finely divided particles. Should these particles fall out the radiation situation will be within the limits recommended by the International Commission on Radiological Protection.

Oleg Belotserkovskiy said that in use in the USA are predominantly radioisotope power plants for space craft using the energy of radioactive decay of isotopes of the plutonium-238 type for obtaining heat, which is then transformed into electricity. Presently in operation in outer space there are several space craft with radioisotope generators made in the USA.